Sandwell
CHRONICLE

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Historic building set to get new lease of life in move

TOLL HOUSE PUT ON THE MARKET

Report by Clare Butler

A HISTORIC Smethwick landmark could be redeveloped after council bosses put it on the market.

The Toll House, just off Smethwick High Street, could be turned into a cafe with an outdoor seating area.

Sandwell council is currently inviting expressions of interest for what they say is an 'unique opportunity' to purchase or lease the Grade II listed building.

More than 40 expressions have already been received with Councillor Richard Marshall calling it a 'step in the right direction' for the building. He explained: "There are a lot of possibilities for what it could become.

The Toll House

"It is such a shame that it has been boarded up and left to rot away. We need to get something done and this is a step in the right direction.

"As long as the features of the building and its heritage are retained then I'll be happy."

Councillor Marshall, who represents the Smethwick ward, continued: "So far we have had over 40 expressions of interest so it will be good to sit down and go through the responses. Hopefully it will allow us to bring something positive to the town and reclaim the history with this building. In my opinion it would be nice if Smethwick Heritage Centre could even take it over."

Refurbishment

The building was most recently utilised as an art, design and glassmaking studio. A public notice on the council's land for sale section of their website states: "The site may have potential to be developed into a retail kiosk/small cafe with outdoor seating/sales area.

"Given the condition of the property, it would require extensive refurbishment throughout.

"The property benefits from small yard areas either side of the building as well as a brick-built garage structure (known as the former coach-house) which may also require refurbishment. The site does not have a primary allocation in the development plan, however, the site is within the Smethwick High Street district centre so town centre uses are considered to be appropriate for this site."

Smethwick Toll House has been a fixture on the High Street since 1820.

RUNNERS HOT ON HEELEY'S HEELS FOR CITY RACE

'Blind Dave' Heeley, centre, with runners James Bee, Garry Wells, guide, Derek McDonough and Karl Moore, guide

TWO runners will find out what it's like to be in charity star Blind Dave Heeley's trainers – by tackling the Great Birmingham 10k blindfolded.

MacDonald Burlington Hotel's regional managing, director Derek McDonough, and hotel manager James Bee will rely on instructions from guides while running with the fundraising star on May 1.

West Bromwich-born Dave's record-breaking endurance feats have inspired the pair to raise funds for Queen Alexandra College, a registered charity for which Dave is a governor. Blind Dave studied for three years at Harborne-based QAC, a specialist college that provides education for young people with disabilities, including blind and visually impaired.

Derek and James will be part of the 15-strong Team QAC running the 10k. With less than a month to go before the city's annual event, entries are still open and more than 7,000 people are expected to take part.

This year's event has music at its heart, with UB40 unveiled as honorary starters. Dave, who was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa and told he was going blind at just 10 years old, has earned national acclaim for taking on the world's toughest fitness challenges, raising £3 million for charity in the process.

"The hardest part for Derek and James will be the training," said Dave, the first, and to date only, blind person to complete seven marathons, in seven consecutive days, on seven different continents. Running around Birmingham's streets while being guided will require instructions to navigate ramps, steps and rough terrain, whereas during the run there will be hardly any change under foot."

COURT

Shoddy work builder took cash in advance

A BUILDER from Great Barr who took cash in advance for poor quality and unfinished work was handed a suspended jail term after a Trading Standards probe.

Christopher Abbotts, aged 56, of Howard Road, received a 32-week sentence suspended for two years at Birmingham Crown Court on Monday.

Abbotts, who pleaded guilty to six offences under the Fraud Act 2006 at an earlier hearing, was also ordered to complete 180 hours of community service, pay £1,500 in court costs and £500 in compensation. Abbotts admitted making dishonest representations and not completing building work as agreed at properties.

RSPCA

Appeal made over cat poison deaths

TWO cats have died from poisoning in Smethwick – with another three in the area killed by suspected poisoning.

An appeal was launched by the RSPCA after vets confirmed the two deaths were due to the felines ingesting a poisonous substance.

The cats, who all lived in the Beechfield Road area, all died in March.

RSPCA inspector Mike Scargill, said: "We are concerned about what may be causing this – and urge anyone with any information at all to call us in complete confidence on 0300 123 8018."

WATERWAYS

Protected canal lock is set for repair work

AN historic grade-II listed canal lock will undergo repair work.

The Smethwick top lock, situated just off Bridge Street North, will see replacement gates, repairs to the lock chamber walls and an upgrade of the lock escape ladder.

The works form part of a continuous programme to preserve the history and meet current Health and Safety standards.

It is hoped that the works will improve access for canal users by increasing the reliability and safety. Sandwell Council approved the plans following the application being submitted on March 30.

INSIDE

Making a mural of it for heritage

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CONTACT US

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205
E-mail: sandwell.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC:
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

ADVERTISING: Nicola Cope
Tel: 01902 319573
E-mail: nicola.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Colin Bailey
Tel: 01902 444331
E-mail: c.bailey@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Jayne LaHiffe
Tel: 01543 465344
E-mail: jayne.lahiffe@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990

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Borough's flying the flag for St George

THOUSANDS of people are expected to flock to West Bromwich for family events to celebrate St George's Day next Saturday.

Manor House Museum, Hall Green Road, will host a St George's Day Family Fun Day on April 23, running from 11am to 3pm. Admission is free with a small charge for some activities. Jane Hanney from Sandwell Council's museums service, said: "Come along and celebrate St George's Day with a fantastic family fun day with loads of entertainment.

"There will be a re-enactment encampment, magic, crafts and much more. Food will also be available."

For more information, go to www.sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums

Then on Sunday, it's the annual St George's Day Parade and Family Fun Day organised by the Stone Cross St George's Association. The parade leaves Westminster Road at around 10.45am and arrives at Dartmouth Park at around 11.45am. Scooter and bike clubs will head off in advance of the parade. All children on the parade will receive a free England flag to wave (while stocks last).

The Royal British Legion will lead the parade and a remembrance and respect ceremony and one minute silence in the park at 12 noon.

The fun day then runs until 5pm, with a host of entertainment, including Pat Collins Fun Fair, bouncy castles, slides, go-karts, craft and charity stalls, Hawkeye Hawk Show, the Sealed Knot re-enactment society, singers, dancers and clowns.

Children's activities include a magic show, circus skills and balloon modelling at scheduled times during the event, and face painting which runs all day. Admission is free – with a small charge for some activities.

Meanwhile, Sandwell libraries are celebrating St George's Day and marking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death on April 23.

Sandwell libraries are inviting everyone to visit their local library and take part in Shakespeare Selfie Day, which is a national campaign to get people to have their photograph taken with a Shakespeare quote and post it on social media.

All libraries will be taking part in this.

Mother's heartbreak of son killed in stabbing

THE heartbroken mother of a teenager stabbed to death after violence flared in a nightclub has said her life has been shattered by her son's death – as the man who murdered him began a life-term behind bars.

Tobijah Thompson will spend a minimum of 32 years behind bars after being convicted of killing 18-year-old Daniel Kirkwood.

He was told it was clear he took the knife to the club so he could have it available as a weapon – and intended to kill when he stabbed the teenager.

Thompson, aged 25, who divided his time between his sister's home in Bearwood and an address in Bedworth, had denied murdering Mr Kirkwood at the Society nightclub in Coventry on March 15 last year.

But last month a jury at Warwick Crown Court found him guilty of murder and of wounding two of his friends, Nigel Mkhwananzi and Niall Kavanagh, with intent to cause them grievous bodily harm and violent disorder. The court was told Mr Mkhwananzi would also have died after being stabbed in the back by Thompson, if it had not been for rapid medical attention.

Hashim Ali, 19, of Amberley Green, Great Barr, was given a 29-month term after admitting violent disorder. He triggered the violence which led to Mr Kirkwood being stabbed in the neck.

During the trial the jury were told how unemployed Thompson pulled out a knife in front of horrified clubbers. Ramez Murtaza, 21, of Bordesley Green, was jailed for eight years after pleading guilty to manslaughter. Another man, Ezra Scott, 32, of Erdington, was handed a 28-month prison term after also admitting violent disorder.

After the hearing, Mr Kirkwood's mother Pauline Darcy said she had been 'broken' by the loss of her son.

The court had heard that she received the devastating news of her son's death in the early hours of Mother's Day – and then discovered the card he was going to give to her. She said: "Dan was the brightest star in our family, he was always laughing, joking and had the biggest smile that everyone noticed. Daniel's adult life was just starting, he had plans but these were cruelly taken away from him."

Stylish Peakys back with bang

Cillian Murphy returns as Tommy Shelby to lead an all-star cast as the gangster series returns to the screen

THE Shelby family are back and looking smarter than ever as the cast of hit TV show Peaky Blinders.

A sneaky peak of new series, which was partly filmed at the Black Country Living Museum, will take place in Birmingham next month. The cast will be at The Everyman Cinema in the Mailbox for a special screening of the first new episode on May 4.

The red carpet event will include Peaky Blinders' actors Cillian Murphy, who plays Tommy Shelby, Paul Anderson, who plays Arthur Shelby, and Packy Lee as Johnny Dogs.

They will be joined by the show's producers and Birmingham-born and writer and creator, Steven Knight, who will arrive at the screening in 'spectacular Peaky Blinders fashion', according to the BBC. The hit-show is due to return in May and sees Hollywood heartthrob Tom Hardy reprise his role of Alfie Solomons.

Joe Godwin, director of BBC Birmingham, said: "This event is going to be a real moment for the whole city to enjoy. Whether you're lucky enough to get tickets to the screening or not, there'll still be a spectacular entrance from the cast for all to see. Part of the phenomenal success of Peaky Blinders is thanks to the way Brummies have taken the series to their hearts."

Mr Knight said he was thrilled the new series of Peaky Blinders had been screened in its heartland of Birmingham. He said: "I hope the people of the city will enjoy the event. The third series is stronger than ever."

£32m boost for trading estate will bring jobs

AN historic trading estate in Tipton will be revamped as part of a £32 million project which will create hundreds of new jobs in the Black Country.

Ambitious proposals to flatten the majority of the existing buildings on the Vaughan Trading Estate in Sedgley Road East and start the site up from scratch have been unveiled. A planning application submitted to Sandwell Council by developer Dudley Unit Trust says overhauling the site would create 1,510 posts.

This would offer a shot in the arm for high quality manufacturing if the plans are given the go-ahead, according to ward Councillor Ian Jones. The scheme aims to create 430,000 sq ft of work space on land neighbouring the Thomas Dudley Foundry and CAB Autos.

Councillor Jones, who worked on the former Vono site in the 1970s, said: "It needs to be brought up to date and needs investment so high quality manufacturing can be brought into the area."

The planning report states: "The proposed development has the potential to provide for 944 full-time equivalent jobs. These direct jobs will generate additional employment through supply chain and employee expenditure multiplier effects. It is expected in this instance 94 jobs at the local level and 472 at the regional or national level will be created.

"It is believed that the jobs filled by the occupied development and taking into account the multiplier effects would generate a total of around £235m Gross Value Added for the wider economy."

Pensioner held down by raiders

A DEMENTIA sufferer aged 87 was pinned down and robbed of her jewellery in her West Bromwich home.

Five masked men burst into the house at around 9.30pm when the victim was pinned to the floor while the raiders ransacked the rooms stealing cash and medication. Another woman in the house, aged 67, was also robbed of her purse.

Acting Det Sgt Julian Hawley who is investigating the robbery said: "This was a really traumatic and disturbing ordeal for the victims who were minding their own business in their own home."

Anyone with any information is asked to contact A/DS Hawley at West Bromwich on 101 or email contactus@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk. Alternatively they can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111, with the crime reference number of 20SW/61189F/16

City meeting planned for Camra members

THE Campaign for Real Ale is holding a consultation meeting in Birmingham next Wednesday at Cherry Reds in John Bright Street, from 7pm to 9pm.

Camra members will be able to hear about the 45-year-old campaign's revitalisation project.

Job losses and pay cuts as Villa look set for drop

UP to 50 job losses and 'huge pay cuts' are expected at Aston Villa after they were all but been relegated to the Championship next season.

In a remarkable fall from grace, Villa's 2-1 home defeat to Bournemouth on Saturday made it virtually impossible for them to be saved from relegation, leaving them 15 points from safety behind Norwich City with five games left. Norwich delayed Villa's inevitable exit from the league after losing 1-0 to Crystal Palace.

They will be relegated if they fail to pick up three points away to Manchester United next Saturday. But the financial repercussions for the club could be catastrophic, with new chairman Steve Hollis already announcing in January that players will face huge pay cuts if they're relegated.

The club will already be losing out on £100million as part of the new Premier League TV deal coming into play next season. A report in March saw the club's financial losses soaring to £27.3m in year to May 31, 2015, with the club still remaining on the market after chairman Randy Lerner's decision to sell. It takes Lerner's losses since buying Villa in 2006 to a staggering £248.9m, which works out to more than £70,000 per day.

He originally bought the Midlands outfit for £62.6m, but has since recorded nine straight years of tax losses. Fans took to Facebook to voice their disgust at the club's demise.

Last season Villa finished 17th in the Premier League, which was declared their 'worst performance since the creation of the league in 1992'.

Witnesses call as victim dies

POLICE have appealed for witnesses to a crash in Birmingham which claimed the life of a man six days later. Nadeem Asghar, who was driving a red Toyota Corolla, was killed after the collision between his car and a white Nissan Qashqai in Digbeth.

Nadeem Asghar

It happened just after 11am on Friday, March 25 at the junction of Alcester Street and Bradford Street.

The driver of the Qashqai suffered minor injuries but 31-year-old Mr Asghar, who was behind the wheel of the Corolla, was taken to hospital where he died on March 31.

Collision investigator Sergeant Steve Newbury said: "The road was closed for several hours while emergency services were at the scene. Sadly a man has lost his life and we are asking anyone who saw what happened to contact us."

The Collision Investigation Unit can be contacted on 101.

Man suffers burns in gas explosion

A view of the scene after the blast

A MAN suffered serious burn injuries when a suspected gas explosion ripped through a house near Smethwick. Emergency services were called to the property in Wiggin Street, Ladywood, just after 12.20pm last Thursday.

This photo shows the front of the building had been ripped off, while there was a partial collapse at the back of the building.

Police said one man went to hospital with serious injuries, while homes close to the scene of the blast were evacuated as a precaution. Twenty firefighters attended Wiggin Street, plus three fire engines, a 4x4 response vehicle and an aerial platform.

West Midlands Ambulance Service sent one ambulance, the Hazardous Area Response Team, a paramedic area support officer and a critical care paramedic. A Midlands Air Ambulance from Cosford with a trauma doctor on board was also dispatched to the scene.

Ambulance Service spokesman Suzie Wheaton said: "One woman, who was believed to have been in the property at the time of the explosion, had managed to get out of the building herself despite the damage. She was assessed by ambulance staff and discharged at the scene.

"A second patient, a man, also believed to have been in the property at the time of the incident, had made his own way to City Hospital. The aircrew and critical care paramedic attended the hospital, where the man was being treated for serious burn injuries. Due to his condition the man was conveyed, via land ambulance, to the major trauma centre at Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham."

Brexit band is 'going in the wrong direction'

TOM Watson has likened the five figures leading the Brexit campaign to an imaginary pop band – Wrong Direction – in his first major speech on the EU referendum.

With a less than subtle nod to One Direction, Labour's deputy leader slammed Chris Grayling, Iain Duncan Smith, Michael Gove, Nigel Farage and Boris Johnson for pursuing a damaging anti-EU agenda.

Tom Watson MP

The West Bromwich East MP said: "If they were a pop band – which is unlikely, I know – they'd be called Wrong Direction.

"Because that's direction in which they want to take our country. The wrong direction on workers rights – because they can't wait to rip up safeguards that were first put in place a generation ago.

"The wrong direction on our place in the world – because they want us to rescind our membership of one of the world's most powerful trading blocks.

Criticised

"And the wrong direction on manufacturing and trade – because they would make it harder for British companies to access the world's largest single market of over 350 million people."

During the speech in Coventry – the first on the EU by any senior Labour figure since the announcement of the June 23 referendum – he criticised business secretary Sajid Javid over his handling of the steel crisis.

Mr Watson said: "Even when officials at the EU are saying it is acceptable to impose the highest possible tariffs on Chinese steel in order to protect our industry, Sajid Javid was incapable of taking 'yes' for an answer."

He also branded 'half the Tory establishment' as 'experts' at tax avoidance in the wake of the Panama papers leak, as he hailed EU measures to stamp out tax dodging. "It is only by acting globally that we can hope to tackle unethical behaviour of the kind exposed by the leaked Panama papers," Mr Watson said.

West Bromwich Albion fan Alan Morris with Ben at the training ground

Baggies fan gets birthday booster

A 72-YEAR-OLD Baggies fan who is battling with cancer enjoyed a birthday to remember after meeting goalkeeper Ben Foster at the club's training ground.

Allan Morris said he 'couldn't have wished for a better birthday present' after meeting the shot-stopper – who last year raised £10,000 for Cure Leukaemia. Mr Morris, from Hanbury in Worcestershire, was being treated for Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) when Foster took part in the 500km London to Paris charity bike ride.

Allan, who is now in remission, said: "I grew up in Smethwick and have been a Baggies fan for over 60 years so I couldn't have wished for a better birthday present. Ben's fundraising for Cure Leukaemia has helped people like me and if it was not for this charity I may not have been able to celebrate my birthday this year."

The father-of-two brought along an Albion shirt for Foster to sign but the England International went one better and asked the whole squad to sign. The number one said: "It was humbling to meet Allan today."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cat and dog die in house blaze

A CAT and dog were killed in a 'severe house fire' in Birmingham.

Emergency crews rushed to the blaze which started in the rear bedroom of a two-storey terraced house in Balsall Heath on Sunday evening.

A cat and dog were recovered by firefighters who tried to revive them with oxygen but the animals were pronounced dead at the scene. Fire crews were on site for around 50 minutes along St Pauls Road.

Spokesman Matthew Smith said: "We had a 999 call to a severe house fire around 6.22pm. We sent two fire engines from Highgate Fire Station. One cat and dog were recovered by fire service crews who tried to administer oxygen to them at the scene."

£5,000 is raised for Brunt causes

BAGGIES fans have revealed more than £5,000 has been raised in a collection for a charity of Chris Brunt's choice.

The collection for the Albion stalwart was kickstarted after he was hit by a coin thrown by the club's own fans following an FA Cup loss at Reading. Last week the club revealed a final total of £5,180.41 was donated by fans. Brunt has made more than 300 appearances for the Baggies.

A 17-year-old from Shropshire was given a caution for using threatening words after the coin throw, Thames Valley Police confirmed – but will face no further action.

Fewer Ryanair flights on time

BUDGET airline Ryanair, which flies from Birmingham Aiport, said that 88 per cent of more than 48,000 flights in March arrived on time.

It was down from 92 per cent in March 2015 due to French air traffic control strikes.

Ryanair's Robin Kiely said: "We carried over 8.5m customers in March with 88 per cent of our 48,000 flights arriving on time as we continued to improve our customer experience."

May Day night for singer Bolton

A NEW date has been set for singer Michael Bolton's Birmingham concert after his planned performance on Friday in Symphony Hall was cancelled due to illness.

He will now appear on May 1. The 63-year-old American star, who has had a string of hit singles and albums, has also announced that he is to record a brand new studio album.

Action on left vehicle

WARDENS at Sandwell Council have continued their crackdown on the borough's roads by removing another untaxed vehicle. The vehicle was targeted in Power Way, Tipton, last Wednesday, under the council's scheme of abandoned vehicles.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

FROM this week, dogs must be identity-chipped by law. But one expert Richard Allport, a senior vet and owner of the Natural Medicine Centre, says implanting the chip could prove fatal in small dogs or puppies. I'm pretty sure that's what killed our stick insect.

THEY say imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, but theft comes a pretty close second. I have shamelessly nicked the following from a reader's email because I can't improve upon it: "MPs fiddle expenses, rich avoid tax, unemployed fiddle benefits, traders fiddle VAT and tax, government fiddles statistics. It's what the Prime Minister refers to as all being in it together."

I WAS impressed, too, with an economical little note on my recent item about Enid Blyton's Famous Five. A reader writes: "Richmal could write Enid off the page." Can't argue with that. Richmal Crompton, creator of Just William, was for my money one of the best children's authors of all time. Better than Blyton. Better than Rowling.

THE Joy of 9 to 5 (Radio 4) wondered what had happened to the eight-hour day in a computer age when half of workers reckon to work more than 40 hours a week. Some interviewees claimed to put in lots of hours but do very little work. From my many years as an office slug, I can report that those who claim to be working hard rarely are, and the busy ones are the ones who never look busy.

THANKS for your tips on how to de-criminalise the Tom Jones hit, Delilah. As you may recall, the song is causing concern among folk who think it encourages violence with the line: "I felt the knife in my hand and she laughed no more." We need a non-lethal object in the hand. A reader points out that the singer John Otway has already recorded a version with "I felt the spoon in my hand." Other readers have suggested that stopping Delilah laughing could be achieved with a pair of socks, the TV remote control or an Aston Villa season ticket. Good to see you're all taking it so seriously.

THE Royal Society of Public Health says obesity could be cut if food labels told us how far we need to walk to burn off the calories. It's a nice idea. But like so many nice ideas it is based on the middle-class assumption that the masses are woefully ignorant and if only they could be educated they would become lean, fit and healthy. Yet there can't be a single adult who does not already know which foods are healthy and which are not. And still millions choose to pig out on fat, sugar and salt.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Stephen goes out in a blaze of glory

Colleagues with Stephen, 50

A FIREMAN who has worked across the Black Country has retired after 30 years. Stephen Weaver, aged 50, of Kings Norton, hung up his kit for the last time last Monday at Oldbury Fire Station, where he has worked for the last five years. It follows 24 years at at Brierley Hill Fire Station.

Father-of-three Stephen always planned to leave after completing his three decades of service but said he will 'have his hands full', running an under-eights football team and spending more time honing his decorating skills.

He counts the Smethwick 'Chinese lantern' fire in 2013 as one incident that sticks in his memory.

More than 200 firefighters attended the blaze, with crews describing it as the largest they had seen in the West Midlands. The fire, which was caused by a lantern that dropped from the sky onto piles of waste, produced a 6,000ft smoke plume that could be seen for up to 60 miles away and is estimated to have caused £6m damage to the Jayplas depot.

Stephen said: "That fire is one that definitely stands out, as my crew was the first on the scene. It was incredible.

"I'm obviously sad to be leaving behind such a great bunch of lads at Oldbury, I can only describe it as a brotherhood."

Mural move to show off hidden treasures

Report by Richard Guttridge

A HUGE mural which pays homage to the history of West Bromwich is to go on public display for the first time.

The artwork, which features famous buildings and industry in the town made from clay, has adorned the walls of the West Bromwich Building Society's headquarters for almost 40 years.

Consequently, it has largely been hidden away from public view.

But now, with the West Brom about to move to a brand new base at Providence Place, the company will be unable to take the mural with them.

So the Friends of Dartmouth Park stepped in and asked if they could take it off their hands and put it where visitors could see it at Sandwell Park Farm, a request bosses gladly accepted.

Stunned

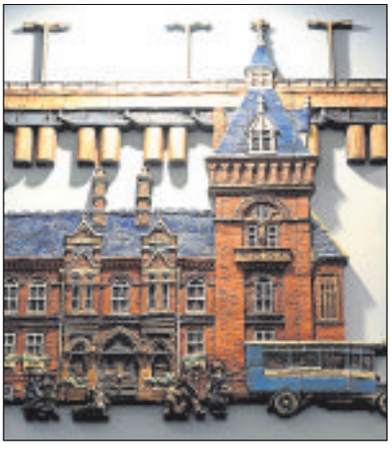
Secretary of the Friends group Carol Hartill said: "I didn't realise it was there until a few years ago when I did a tour. I was stunned it was there – a lot of people don't know it exists, it was such a shame it was hidden away in that building.

"When I heard they were going to move I enquired what whether they would be taking it. When they said no I wondered what would happen to it and asked if they would let us have it."

The mural was designed by Black Country artist William Burgess and has hung in the reception at the building society since 1978. West Bromwich Town Hall, Oak House and the Farley Clock Tower all feature along with a real West Brom legend – Tony 'Bomber' Brown.

The impressive artwork will now be lifted out of the building in High Street and moved to Sandwell Park Farm over the next few weeks. The Friends group is trying to trace the artist William Burgess in the hope he could help unveil the mural in its new location.

West Bromwich Building Society PR manager Nick Trueman, and Friends of Dartmouth Park secretary Carol Hartill



Part of the mural, the town's Farley clock tower

An image of Albion's Tony 'Bomber' Brown

Number of sickies for health staff under fire

HOSPITAL bosses in Sandwell have warned the level of staff sickness absence is 'unacceptably high' – putting added pressure on finances.

A report for Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust's board sets out the rolling 12-month level of sickness absence as 4.99 per cent, nearly 1.5 per cent higher than the goal of 3.5 per cent.

This is impacting on the already stretched Trust finances, as bosses had planned to cut sickness absence in order to make £923,000 worth of savings between 2016-18.

Back in September, the Trust announced new 'punitive measures both for managers and employees' to try to tackle the level of sickness absence.

But the rolling 12-month rate has actually risen since then, from 4.91 per cent to the current 4.99 per cent.

Councillor Bob Lloyd, who sits on Sandwell Council's health board, said: "[Sickness absence] has a knock-on effect as if there aren't enough staff then the trust needs to get agency staff in to fill the gaps. It's almost an unsolvable conundrum when you're looking to save money, you need more staff, but the ones you have are having days off. If you have to use agencies to staff your wards then that hits the Trust's finances. I don't know what the answer is to it."

This absence rate remains around 0.5 per cent above the NHS national average of 4.44 per cent.

In July last year, Trust chief executive Toby Lewis announced there would be an investment of £100,000 in physiotherapy for workers as the common cause of staff sickness is muscle injury.

By George! It's a charity walk

A CHARITY walk featuring former West Brom footballer Bob Taylor, Blind Dave Heeley and chef Glynn Purnell is taking place this month.

The walk will be starting from the Royal Oak Pub, in Newton Street, West Bromwich, on St George's Day and will continue to Sandwell Valley Park.

The walk hopes to raise £1,000 for two charities Marie Curie and Breast Cancer UK.

Up to 40 people are expected to take part in the event which starts at 11.15am.

Diversity date is added to city shows

DIVERSITY have added an extra matinee performance at the Barclaycard Arena, for next year.

Tickets for the additional show, which will take place April 22, 2017, are available for purchase now for £40.08 or £28.83. VIP packages are also available from £72.30. See SJM-VIP.com for details. The matinee show will start at 1.30pm.

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Bag theft bid woman jailed for 40 months

A WOMAN has been jailed for more than three years after attacking a woman and trying to steal her bag outside a hospital.

Kirsty Aldred, aged 21 of no fixed address, attacked a 51-year-old woman after initially asking her for a £1 coin as she walked along Lyndon Grove in West Bromwich, but after the victim refused, Aldred turned violent and tried to grab her handbag. The incident happened outside Sandwell General Hospital.

The woman managed to throw her bag to safety underneath a nearby car to stop Aldred from stealing it, but she continued to hit her over the head and scratch her face.

She was knocked to the floor during the attack and suffered cuts to her face, as well as minor injuries to the back of her head, chest and arm which required hospital treatment. After failing to steal the bag, Aldred then fled the scene.

A police investigation matched the description given by witnesses to that of Aldred and further enquiries found that she had discharged herself from the hospital that day on Wednesday February 17, with the incident happening around 11.25am.

Aldred has 15 previous convictions for 22 separate offences, 18 theft related. She was sentenced to 40 months behind bars for attempted robbery. She admitted the charge.

Det Sgt Julian Hawley said: "Aldred showed absolutely no remorse about the injuries she had caused throughout the court process."

Crash sergeant gets the sack

A DRUNK police sergeant has been sacked after crashing her car into a garage in West Bromwich.

Sgt Shirley Worrall, aged 42, appeared at the special case hearing in Birmingham last Tuesday after being convicted of drink driving last month.

The hearing was scheduled following her conviction after she crashed into the Vauxhall garage in Spon Lane on February 17 while off duty. Worrall, who worked in Stechford and previously in Smethwick, was arrested and admitted drink driving in front of Birmingham magistrates on March 17. She was banned from driving for 18 months, fined £500 and ordered to pay costs of £135. Worrall was sacked with immediate effect for gross misconduct.

Tesco's call to causes over food

CHARITIES in West Bromwich are set to benefit from a new scheme for distributing unsold food. Tesco Extra stores are taking part in the project and are calling on local charities and community groups to register for it.

Protest over effects of bus service axe

Councillors Paul, right, and Chris Bott

PROTESTERS came out to fight the possible cancellation of a 'crucial' bus service. The number 38 provides a vital lifeline for elderly residents in and around Parklands Road, Kings Hill and Darlaston Road, users have said.

But National Express is considering stopping the bus service, a move which Councillor Paul Bott said would trap pensioners in their homes. He said: "It's no good having a bus pass if you don't have any buses around. Without the 38, a good many of these pensioners wouldn't get out of their houses. They can get into Darlaston, which supports the town and local businesses. If they make their way out there, they've got to come back, and they just wouldn't manage to get to Kingshill at all.

"It'd mean the cost of taxis, and their pensions don't run to hiring taxis." Councillor Bott said it isn't the first time they've had to fight to make sure there's a bus available for pensioners in the area. He and his wife, Councillor Chris Bott, helped to restore the service when it was removed several years ago. He said: "We lobbied the council, protested, launched petitions and they reinstated the service."

"We can't understand why National Express would want to remove it. It's crucial that residents can get into the Manor Hospital."

Ali Bell, a spokesperson for National Express, said: "Route 38 is part of a consultation that has only just closed, so no decisions have been made yet. The proposals mean that the 38 would be replaced by an extension to the 75 service. The number of buses between Wednesbury and Darlaston would stay the same."

Top maths student, 17, found hanged by father

AN incredibly gifted 17-year-old student who was found hanged in his garage had won awards and been accepted into university, an inquest heard.

Mani Dulay, who was born in Birmingham but lived on Thuree Road in Smethwick, was found dead by his father on March 8.

The talented sixth form student, who attended King Edward VI Five Ways, had won awards in mathematics – being ranked in the top one per cent of the UK.

Smethwick Coroners Court heard how Mani had gone to school as usual and had helped friends sell raffle tickets for a play during the day as well as play table tennis.

But friends noted that he did seem 'subdued'.

Mr Baljinder Singh Dulay, Mani's father, had returned from work at 3.30pm after a business trip in Coventry and found Mani hanged in the garage.

Mr Dulay said Mani had never shown any indication of being unhappy and had no history of depression.

Popular

However, when police took away his computer they found that he had been researching ways to take his own life since December.

Mr Dulay said: "He was a quiet type of guy but very open and popular with his group of friends.He was a very smart straight A student who had been accepted into University College London to study there for five years.

"He had won awards in mathematics in the top one per cent of the UK and had entered into another exam for Europe.

"He loved maths and physics and was incredibly gifted.

"He would play squash with me and enjoyed online gaming with friends. We had no problems with him whatsoever. He would not hurt a fly and was never a violent person.

"We feel that he did not know his own thinking to take his own life and it must have been a chemical imbalance to make him do this."

A statement from Pathologist Peter Acland determined the medical cause of death as hanging.

Concluding a verdict of suicide Senior Coroner Zafar Siddique said: "This is an absolutely tragic loss and I cannot comprehend what the family are going through at the minute.

"He was a brilliant young man."

Off to a flying start with demolition

Part of the drone's video footage showing the demolition of the Central Library in Birmingham

SOARING sights of the demolition of the old Central Library in Birmingham have been captured by unique drone footage showing progress at the Paradise Birmingham redevelopment.

Aerial footage of diggers ploughing through the former city landmark show cascading rubble hitting the ground as demolition teams progress with the £500 million redevelopment project.

The dramatic drone video captured by paradisebirmingham.co.uk displays a high-reach excavator working alongside its smaller partner to dislodge a large section of concrete before the drone is flown around the site and Birmingham skyline – marking the end of the era for the once cultural capital.

The development was hailed as the catalyst for transforming the city centre earlier in the year, with workers from Birmingham-based demolition specialist DSM tasked with the major overhaul of the land.

The Paradise Circus development, renamed Paradise Birmingham, is being cleared ready for the development of new offices, a hotel and shops around a remodelled Chamberlain Square. The new buildings will be used for leisure and hotel use, as well as there being further open public areas and a Metro tram stop.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cubs spend break in Mediterranean

A GROUP of Cub Scouts and adult volunteers spent the Easter break in Gibraltar to mark the 100th anniversary of the organisation.

Twenty Cub Scouts and seven volunteers from the Black Country area flew from Bristol and celebrated the momentous occasion alongside three packs from Gibraltar.

As well as designing and flying kites, the Cubs went caving in the Rock of Gibraltar and tried out canoeing in the Mediterranean Sea. They were greeted by dignitaries which included the governor of Gibraltar.

Centre all set to leap into action

PLANS to build a trampoline centre in an Oldbury warehouse are set to get the final go-ahead, creating 25 jobs. The scheme has been granted approval but needs councillors to rubber-stamp it further, as it is a departure from the council's local plan.

A report to the meeting recommends that 'an exception to the Black Country Joint Core Strategy and local development plan be allowed' for the plans. A reception and cafe will be part of the arena, while seating for parents would also run around the trampolining area.

Schools reunion set to take place

AN old boys reunion for former pupils of two Smethwick schools takes place next month.

The annual old boys' reunion dinner of Holly Lodge Grammar and James Watt Technical Schools will be held at The Tally Ho, Conference & Banqueting Centre, Pershore Road, in Birmingham on May 13.

Guest speaker will be comedian Ian 'Sludge' Lees. For details contact Martin Baines on 01562 886275 or email OldboysHLJW@outlook.com

Peaky viewing to welcome star visitors

THE cast and crew of hit Black Country TV show Peaky Blinders are coming to Birmingham for an exclusive screening of the new series.

A special red carpet event is being held at the Mailbox in Birmingham next month where the first episode of the hotly anticipated third series will be shown.

The BBC show, which is fronted by actor Cillian Murphy who plays Tommy Shelby, is partly filmed at the Black Country Living Museum.

Catwalk call is made

WANNABE models are being invited to volunteer for an upcoming fashion show.

Students at Walsall College are holding their own event, and need help from members of the public.

Those interested should email fashion@walsallcollege.ac.uk

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Scotsman still just the ticket for rail fans

WHEN tickets went on sale to travel on a train pulled by the newly-restored Flying Scotsman at the Severn Valley Railway, the website crashed within minutes. Hours later, the website continued to have problems, as people clamoured for the 7,000 tickets released.

It's not really surprising. Flying Scotsman was a milestone in engineering, the first railway engine officially recorded as travelling at 100mph.

And all this was in 1934, when company transport for many people was still a horse and cart. But these were the days when innovation meant exciting new developments where the aim was to make everything faster, bigger, more powerful.

Do you think, 80 years from now, people will feel the same sense of nostalgia and affection for the iPhone or contactless payment? We've lost our imagination.

Oh, and one other thing. The experience at the Severn Valley Railway shows us that the old technology is considerably more dependable than the new stuff.

❒❒❒

DO you remember James Billington, the comedian who caused a minor diplomatic spat by pretending to be the Mayor of Stafford?

Well he's resurfaced again, and this time the jape is asking people to give him £1,000 to meet his bogus Russian bride.

Look, I know I'm a traditionalist, but didn't you prefer the days when comedians just told jokes?

❒❒❒

MAYBE I should be angrier, but I really can't get very excited about the prime minister's historic offshore holdings.

He once had £30,000 worth of shares in his father's company, which he sold six years ago, and paid the same amount of tax as he would have done anyway.

If that's all there is to it, I think we're barking up the wrong tree.

Then again, perhaps it's because I participate in tax avoidance too. Like many of you, I have got some ISAs, which I do for the express reason of paying less tax.

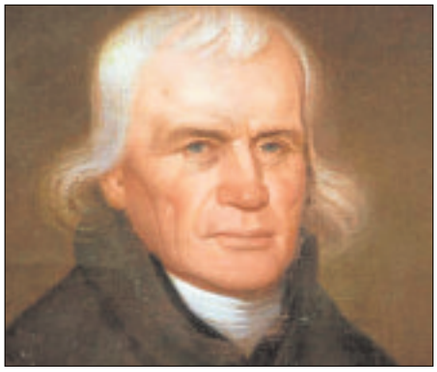
And why not? We pay income tax and national insurance when we earn money, we pay VAT when we spend it, not to mention the plethora of so-called green taxes we have force on us.

Is it really fair that if we put something away for a rainy day, so we will hopefully become less dependent on the state in years to come, that we should be clobbered for that as well?

Particularly given that last week the Government revealed it would be spending £9 million on propaganda about the EU referendum, carefully timed to fall outside of the "purdah" period, when such use of funds would be outlawed.

Now that is what we should be bashing Cameron for.

A statue of the bishop, seen on horseback in New Jersey



A portrait of the great man, from the Black Country

The bishop's former home in West Bromwich, seen in 1973

Preacher Asbury, who helped build a nation

RICHARD GUTTRIDGE celebrates the life of a man who laid the foundations of Christianity in the US, 200 years on from his death

A LITTLE over two miles north of the White House in Washington DC stands a statue of Francis Asbury, a man revered all across America.

The statue honour which is one shared by American heroes Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D Roosevelt and shows the regard in which he is held in the States.

There are towns and hospitals dotted across the country named after him, but in the place he was born, here in the Black Country, much less is known about the man who a president declared was one of the most important in the history of America.

Last week marked the 200th anniversary since Asbury's death. His life was one devoted to spreading the word of God and he is widely regarded of being the founder of the Methodist Church in the US. Many experts even say that Christianity as a whole in America can be traced back to the Black Country man.

His incredible tale sounds like something from a movie. He travelled an astonishing 225,000 miles on horseback over 45 years preaching to anyone who would listen in the burgeoning New World.

But before he landed on the east coast of soon-to-be-independent America, Asbury's story started in Great Barr.

He was born into a working-class family in 1745 and lived in Newton Road, Hamstead. It was all a very long way from a presidential address and a statue close to the White House. His childhood home is today a small museum – a warm tribute but also an isolated one.

He became involved with the Methodist movement from a young age, leading teachings at the West Bromwich Wesleyan Society as a teenager, splitting his time between preaching and his job as a metal worker.

Over the next few years he began his journey. Initially it was confined to the boundaries of the Black Country, leading sermons in Wolverhampton, Wednesbury and Walsall, but at the age of 22 he bowed to a higher calling.

Ian Casey, museum assistant at the bishop's former home in Great Barr, now a museum

Collections officer, David Waring

In 1771 he volunteered to travel to America. It was the last time he would see the Black Country. Within a couple of weeks he was visiting New York and Philadelphia.

It is not known quite what his new audience made of his Black Country accent but it clearly didn't put them off. When the American War of Independence broke out in 1776, he was one of only two Methodist ministers in the whole country. During the next 30 years he toured America's east and midwest on horseback, preaching to anyone who would listen in courthouses, pubs, tobacco houses, fields, and public squares.

In 1814, Asbury's health began to decline. He died on March 31, 1816, seven days after delivering his last sermon in Virginia.

While events were held in the Black Country marking the anniversary, including at his former home-turned-museum, more attention was devoted to the occasion in the States.

A group of Americans came over to Dudley recently to attend an event honouring Asbury at the Black Country Living Museum.

Al DeFillipo, who is based in Florida and has written books on the life of the nomadic preacher does not underestimate the importance of Asbury to Christians on the other side of the Atlantic, describing him as the 'George Washington of American Christianity'.

He said: "What also made Francis Asbury an American favourite was the fact he was known by almost everyone in the burgeoning nation. He travelled from Maine in the east to Georgia in the south east, from Maryland and Virginia in the east to Tennessee and Kentucky in the west made him a household name.

"Not only did he preach and teach in these towns but he also spent the night in many of the homes of the faithful in these towns. He never owned a home during his 45-year ministry in America.

"There are some who correctly state that if there wasn't a Francis Asbury there would be no American Methodism. But there are also many who acknowledge that without Francis Asbury, there would be no American Christianity. Many of the enriching qualities of contemporary American Christianity originated with the efforts of Francis Asbury and the thousands of travelling preachers he pushed to spread the life-giving message of the gospel."

More than a century after his death, President Calvin Coolidge got up to speak at a dedication ceremony to unveil his statue and declared proudly: "He is entitled to rank as one the builders of our nation."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
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EMAIL
sandwell.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Freedom must not be given away

MANY people will remember back to the 1970s, being asked to cast their vote in a referendum on the Common Market. Now, many years later the public can see the EU has come to dominate the UK so that now around 75 per cent of our laws are made in the EU.

In a nutshell this means that the laws which govern citizens of our country are decided by politicians from other nations who we have not elected and whom we cannot remove. Our democracy is slowly being taken from our hands and handed to a European Council of unelected bureaucrats. Britain's democracy and foundation of common law has been held in high regard around the world for centuries and is the cornerstone of the American Constitution.

Great Britain fought two world wars for freedom, liberty and democracy. Too high a price was paid for these freedoms for them to be given away so easily with just the stroke of a politician's pen – the same politicians who put career before country.

GRAHAM NOCK
UKIP, Charlemont & Grove Vale

Putting other nations first

ONCE again we see how much our ministers care for the children of this country.

The Health Minister has just agreed to donate 157,000 doses of a vaccine at a cost of £3.5m to Niger and Mali. The very same committee that sanctioned this donation, refused to sanction the use of Bexsero in July 2013 by the NHS, it was not considered cost effective, even though it could have helped to eliminate some of the possible 1,870 meningitis cases per year. One in ten being fatal.

My question to the minister would be, how can you and committee decide who will live and who will suffer loss of limbs or even die?

K V JOYCE
Wednesbury

Scots MPs should not have a say

IN reply to K Parton's letter in a recent edition of the Express & Star, regarding the Scottish MPs votes against Sunday longer opening hours in England and Wales. I agree completely with his sentiments about the Scottish vote being allowed in matters that do not directly affect Scotland.

But I was more incensed when the Scottish Parliament voted against student tuition fees in Scotland, then turned up at Westminster and voted for fees to be paid by English and Welsh students.

I could not comprehend why they did that, and came to the conclusion it was purely vindictive.

Without the Scottish MPs vote the tuition fees 'against vote' would have carried.

I would like to point out the Scottish MPs at that time were predominantly Labour MPs. It has been said that if Great Britain votes to leave the EU, Scotland would leave Great Britain. As far as I'm concerned that's a win win.

MR B K WILLIAMS
Tipton

Scaremongering from both sides not helping the EU issue

I DON'T know what planet R Ireland is on, their article on the referendum and stating that most arguments concern short term economic position or problems with migration and immigration scaremongering.

Our short term economic position and migration cause problems in itself, there is no limit to the number of EU migrants being allowed into the country under EU law.

Because of the economic downturn there is not enough jobs for them, it's the 'remain in' camp that's doing the scaremongering telling people they will lose their jobs if we leave the EU, it's the opposite if we stay.

Jobs are more at risk from the large influx of cheap labour from the EU plus the need to increase austerity measures to pay for increases in the cost of housing and services. As for immigration there is a need to keep our borders safe and not have open borders as in the EU. Other countries realise this and are closing their borders, it's necessary to have controls to stop undesirables from entering. Not all immigrants are genuine as proven by the rioting at border controls and terrorists entering unchecked.

R Ireland goes on to say Europe has been at peace for the last 70 years, so the war in the Balkans never happened and the civil war going on today in Ukraine. Eastern Bloc countries under the control of Russia has seen uprisings in Hungary and Poland.

There was the blockade of Berlin aid, had to be airlifted in tension was high. West Germany was protected by American British and French troops stationed there. I served my national service there, we were on constant alert, it was not the European Union that brought peace to Europe.

They also stated we benefited from co-operation and free trade, rubbish they need to talk to small firms tied down with red tape trying to trade in Europe. French burning our lorries delivering sheep, unnecessary delays to our lorries at border crossings, our fishermen forced to throw part of their catch back because of EU quotas – so much for co-operation and free trade.

H J ROPER
Tipton

Ice rink developers finally get their skates on for plan

LONG-RUNNING plans to create a huge ice rink in West Bromwich are finally set to be lodged. The rink, which is to be built on the site of the derelict Queens Square car park, has been hit by a series of setbacks.

However it finally appears to be moving forward. Delays had led to fears the ice rink would never come to fruition but at long last, three years after it was first mooted, bosses behind the scheme say relevant documents are close to being submitted to Sandwell Council.

Mike Petrouis, chief executive of Planet Ice, said: "I feel like we're on the last furlong now and I will be pleased to take it to another level."

The company is in the final stages of completing a land agreement, which will allow them to demolish the multi-storey car park and build the rink. Mr Petrouis said: "We have agreed a final document and are waiting for the council to sign it.

"We will then go to planning when everything is final, the council has got to do it right. As soon as we have got the land agreement ready, then we will put the application in."

Council bosses were keen to get an ice rink in the town centre to try and boost visitor numbers and compliment other new developments such as the £200 million New Square Shopping Centre.

It was originally hoped that the ice rink would be open for spring this year. An estimated date for work to start was then put back to the end of 2015.

The lack of activity had sparked fears that the deal had hit problems.

But council officers have actually been in discussions with Planet Ice throughout the last few months – with draft proposals having been tweaked and sent back to the developer."

Borough joins in with 90th celebrations

SANDWELL is joining hundreds of communities up and down the country when it lights a special beacon to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

People will be able to see the beacon from miles around when it is lit at 8.30pm on April 21.

Sandwell Mayor Councillor Barbara Price will officially light the borough's beacon on the Rowley Hills, near East Avenue. The best view of the beacon will be from the Oldbury area.

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall will light the principal beacon at Windsor Castle.

It will be followed by the lighting of more than 1,000 beacons throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK overseas Territories and Commonwealth to celebrate the Queen's landmark. Beacons have previously been lit for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

Jayne hopes for capital gain in marathon

Jayne Whitehouse, from Walsall, who is running the London Marathon, seen with her daughter Faith, 11, who has diabetes

A MOTHER hopes to help raise more than £400,000 to find a diabetes cure by running in the London Marathon. Jayne Whitehouse, whose daughter was diagnosed with the illness aged three, is part of the JDRF team.

Mrs Whitehouse, aged 42, from Walsall, has a personal fundraising target of £1,500 and will join 180 fellow JDRF runners on April 24.

The charity raises money to plough back into the research to try to find a cure for type one diabetes. Mrs Whitehouse, whose daughter, Faith, is now aged 11, said: "When I was 10 I was diagnosed with asthma and couldn't run very well. Faith was diagnosed at the age of three and having witnessed me take on such gruelling training she is now really active herself.

"Her illness does not stop her from achieving everything she wants to do."

Mrs Whitehouse, who works as a legal secretary, said although training for the 26.2 mile run had been tough at times in the cold, dark winter months she could always find motivation by looking at her daughter.

Having seen Faith endure so much with her illness proves the only motivation I need," she said.

To sponsor Mrs Whitehouse visit www.justgiving.com/Jaynemarkfaithrun

Marking the Bard's milestone

VISITORS can take part in a history quiz and celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death in a series of events at Tipton library today.

As part of a popular programme of monthly local history talks, author and historian Chris Smith will be at the library to Admission to the talk which starts at 10.30am is by advance ticket only – call the library on 0121 557 1796.

On April 23 the library, in Owen Street, hosts a special event to mark the 400th anniversary of the death of the bard. Organisers are also unveiling a print of what is thought to be the first photo of William Perry the Tipton Slasher.

The photo will be unveiled at 11am by John Miller from the Tipton and Coseley Building Society and members of the William Perry Amateur Boxing Club There will be traditional refreshments, face painting and a number of special guests at the event which runs from 10.30am-12.30pm.

Music and mirth on bill for show

BROADCASTER and performer Billy Spakemon will present an evening of Black Country entertainment in Wolverhampton this month.

The evening of poetry, music and storytelling is on April 30 from 7.30pm at the Arena Theatre. Kim Lowings and the Greenwood, The Langford Band and The Boonyeds are among those to feature. Tickets are £10 and £8 concessions. Visit www.wlv.ticketsolve.com

Woman fears for her life after yobs target home

A WOMAN who lives in the former home of a convicted paedophile is fearing for her life after yobs hurled a brick through the window of her Black Country house.

Hazel Denham, aged 77, of Clent Road, Oldbury, has lived in her home for the last 18 months, but has been the victim of vile and vicious attacks, with the most recent happening on Friday April 1, when a brick was thrown through her front window.

Before she had chance to see who had done it, the perpetrators had fled the scene. They have previously vandalised the front of her house with written abuse, and neighbours along with police have helped to clean it up.

But Mrs Denham believes she is being targeted because of who she says was the home's previous occupant, Harold Branson, who was jailed in January 2007 after being convicted of indecently assaulting three girls nearly 30 years ago.

Disqualified

He was jailed for nine years and sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court for 12 charges of indecent assault and two charges of indecency with a child. He was disqualified from working with children for life and told he would have to notify police of his whereabouts upon his release.

The offences took place between 1983 and 1991 when one of the victims was just five years old.

The court heard how Branson had brainwashed his victims into keeping it 'his little secret'. However, years later the youngest of the victims, now in her thirties, decided to speak up and was supported by two other victims, now in their thirties. Mrs Denham, originally from Birmingham, moved from Skegness to the area to be closer to a friend. She said: "I'm an elderly woman who has done nothing to no-one.

Hazel Denham, aged 77, who had her Clent Road address in Oldbury targeted

"I'm petrified in my house and scared to leave it. Luckily, I wasn't in the front room on Friday, otherwise I could have been killed. The police have told me they can't do anything but I don't understand how this can be the case considering how many times I've called them out.

"I've been told the house was targeted when the previous owner lived here, but people need to realise there is no connection between us whatsoever and this needs to stop. How can anyone abuse and treat an elderly woman in this way?"

Sgt Jamie Neadle, from the local policing team, said: "We are aware of the ongoing concerns around this address and local officers continue to work with the householder and community.

"Inquiries remain ongoing into the motive for the offences." Anyone with information about the incident on Friday is asked to call police on 101.

Memorial service to remember Darren

A CIVIC memorial event to celebrate the life and achievements of Sandwell Council Leader Councillor Darren Cooper will be held at West Bromwich Town Hall next Friday, April 22.

Councillor Cooper, who led the council since 2009, died suddenly over the Easter weekend. His family, friends, colleagues and representatives from organisations who worked closely with him will be invited to the event by the council.

Announcing the event, acting Council Leader Councillor Steve Eling said: "I've been overwhelmed by people's kind words since we lost Darren. Hundreds of people have already signed the books of condolence in Oldbury and Smethwick, and we will be sharing these heartfelt messages with Darren's family. This event will be an opportunity to celebrate Darren's life and remember the huge contribution he made to Sandwell, the Black Country and the wider West Midlands."

The aftermath of the accident in Halesowen, which caused delays – Picture: @woodgatefire

No-one hurt as Nissan car slams through metal barrier

A CAR slammed through a metal barrier but two passengers, a woman and a boy, amazingly escaped injury-free in Halesowen town centre. The blue Nissan Micra cascaded through the railings on Hagley Road after coming off the Queensway island just before 8am last Wednesday.

One woman and a boy got out the car injury free before fire crews arrived. The car's front tyres ended up perched on top of the barrier leaving it bent at an angle with scattered debris on the pavement. Ten firefighters rushed to the scene with two engines attending from Woodgate Valley and Haden Cross. It happened on the corner of the busy shopping area outside Taylor's estate agents opposite the Asda superstore multi-storey car park. Neil Spencer, West Midlands Fire Service spokesman, said: "We had a call at around 7.56am to attend a road traffic collision on Hagley Road.

"There were reports of a car collision with a road side barrier. One woman and boy had got out of the car before we arrived and were given a precautionary check over at the scene, but required no further treatment. We made sure that the vehicle and the area surrounding it were made safe. The car was removed from the barrier using a winch."

A West Midlands Ambulance Service spokeswoman added: "We were called out to Queensway in Halesowen at around 8am.

"Two ambulances attended the scene after the car had left the carriageway in collision with a barrier."

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Yamlet – to be or not to be, ay it the question?

ONE of William Shakespeare's most famous tragedies is being translated into the Black Country dialect.

The move comes as part of a project that aims to celebrate and preserve the distinctive language of the region. Yamlet will see the Prince of Denmark story's characters perform translated excerpts in locations around Cradley Heath.

The title character will be portrayed by an aspiring actor from Stourbridge.

Birmingham School of Acting postgraduate student Stuart Ash will be filmed on location in period Elizabethan costume and his performances will be broadcast throughout April on Facebook, Twitter and, of course, 'YowTube' and 'InstaYam'.

Mr Ash, an MA acting student at Birmingham City University, said: "It's a fantastic project for me to be working on and something that's very close to my heart."

Stuart Ash as Yamlet

Phrases

Yamlet has been devised by Philip Holyman and Gareth Nicholls, co-directors of Walsall-based theatre company Little Earthquake.

The pair are both visiting lecturers at the Birmingham School of Acting, part of Birmingham City University. The work has partly been inspired by the upcoming 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, on April 23. Mr Holyman said: "With a ruff round his neck and a fake skull in his hand, Yamlet will celebrate Black Country cultural identity by capturing fragments of language which are in danger of being lost forever."

Yamlet was commissioned as part of the 'Where's Our Spake Gone?' project, supported by £77,600 from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Since 2014, a team of linguists, historians and artists has been working alongside residents to explore ways to record and celebrate the distinctive dialect and language of the Black Country.

Their efforts have focused in particular on four areas – Cradley Heath, Gornal, Oldbury and Tipton – each of which host public events featuring performances and exhibitions. The project will generate an archive of oral history interviews, as well as photographic essays and short films, workshops, a commemorative book with accompanying DVD and several new artist commissions, including 'Yamlet'.

City charity run raises £1,500

THE Ernst and Young Foundation Ronnie Bowker 10km chartiy run took place in Birmingham on Sunday and raised more than £1,500 to help disadvantaged young people into employment and education.

It was the fourth year of the annual charity run, organised in partnership with the EY Foundation and Ronnie Bowker Foundation, which was set up in memory of EY's former office managing partner in Birmingham who died from cancer. The event attracted over 130 runners to Birmingham's Cannon Hill Park.

The money raised for the EY Foundation will go towards helping disadvantaged young people find alternative routes into employment and education, or even set up a business.

Mark Minihane, partner at EY in the Midlands, said: "Thank you to this year's runners and to all our volunteers."

Shop opens to help people Agewell

Edna Barker, chairman of social enterprise Agewell at Sandwell Hospital with Ruth Bailey, volunteer

A NEW shop has opened at Sandwell Hospital, as part of a partnership between social enterprise Agewell and Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust.

The new store will help Agewell generate revenue to support older people over 50 who are in need.

Speaking at the opening on Tuesday, Agewell chairman Edna Baker, said: "We are delighted to open our shop at Sandwell Hospital, and hope the community will support us as we aim to generate the funds to help run many programmes that support elderly patients at the hospital and after discharge. We will also provide a ward trolley service so we can have more chances to speak to patients and identify those in need of our 'befriending' support or if they need community support when they get home."

The shop sells items including sandwiches, snacks, drinks, toiletries and newspapers.

Volunteers plan to ask for feedback from the public to ensure they offer as wide a range of products as possible.

In the longer term, the shop wants to create a space where patients can drop in for a drink and chat.

Bosses are 'confident' of handling extra births

SANDWELL health bosses said they were 'confident' their maternity services could take dozens of extra births a year to help ease pressure on Walsall's Manor Hospital.

It was revealed last week that up to 200 expectant mothers a year are set to be told they cannot have their babies delivered at the Manor.

Instead, they will be redirected to services in Sandwell and Dudley.

Elaine Newell, director of midwifery for Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, said: "We have been talking to Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust for some time and are pleased to be able to support the Trust in offering access to our maternity service for women from the Walsall area, or from parts of Sandwell who historically look to the Manor.

"We are very confident that we have the right capacity to continue to provide our high standards of care in our midwifery services and birthing facilities."

The talks are in the early stages and it has not been confirmed what areas will be affected or how the mothers will be divided between

By Carl Jackson

Sandwell's Midwifery Unit or Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital.

Paul Clark, chief executive for Dudley Group NHS Foundation Group, said: "We can confirm the Trust has been in discussion with Walsall CCG and Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust regarding maternity provision. These discussions are still in the early stages and we are unable to provide any more detail."

Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group has already implemented a cap aiming to reduce the births at the Manor from 4,900 a year to around 4,400. Those 500 women, registered at GPs in Willenhall and Staffordshire will be asked to have their babies at New Cross in Wolverhampton.

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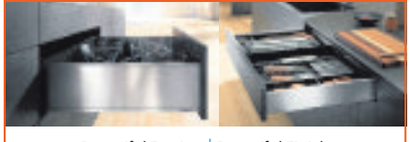
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Prize joy for youngsters looking for a career path

THREE lucky teenagers, including one from Tipton, were rewarded for their efforts after taking part in a careers advice event organised by Sandwell Connexions.

Lauren O'Neill, Marcus Facey-Dell and Katie Wilkes all took part in the Connexions New Year New Start Careers event. The aim of the day was to help them, along with other young people, make positive decisions about their futures. As well as getting advice on training and careers they entered a prize draw and picked up an iPad.

The youngsters were each presented with their prize by Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Barbara Price and the principal of Sandwell College, Graham Pennington. Lauren O'Neill, aged 17, from Great Barr, is on a study programme at Nacro working to improve her maths and English and will later gain vocational experience in an occupation of her choice.

Marcus Facey-Dell, 15 is currently at Wood Green Academy and wants represent the country at the 2020 Para-Olympics and currently trains at Birchfield Harriers Athletics Club.

Marcus, from Wednesbury, hopes to enrol on a sports-related course at Sandwell College.

As a result of attending the event, Katie Wilkes, 17, from Tipton has enrolled with Nova on a study programme and hopes to progress onto an art course at college in September.

Matthew Price, from Nova Training, said: "Katie has grown in confidence and is making excellent progress, we are very proud of her."

From left, Sandwell College principal Graham Pennington, Katie Wilkes and Mayor of Sandwell Councillor Barbara Price

All of the young people attended the presentation with family members who were delighted at their success both in the prize draw and their career development.

Mr Pennington said: "Congratulations to all our winners. We are delighted to sponsor this event and help these young people on their path towards a successful future career, whether that is on a vocational course such as sports or art and design, A Levels or an apprenticeship."

New site for war memorial

THE finishing touches have been put to the relocation of Woodsetton War Memorial, near Tipton, which has now been moved to the 'heart of the community'.

The memorial was previously sited behind a fence on nearby church ground in Swan Village, to a more public area of open space opposite the Bramford pub at the crossroads of Parkes Hall Lane and Tipton Road.

It also has a new information board and Union Flag pole installed to remember the 30 fallen heroes of the First World War.

Research for the board was carried out by High Arcal Secondary School pupils with the help of local historian Andrew Johnson.

Woodsetton Charitable Trust has been instrumental in finding funding. Councillor Keiran Casey said: "I think the memorial looks fantastic in its new location, taking pride of place at the heart of our community."

Councillor Casey, Don Davies and Harry Brookes from the charitable trust

Groups join forces to help causes

TIPTON'S oldest community group which was established in 1964, and Brook Street Community Centre, the town's premier community-run venue for social and leisure activities have joined forces to create a superb new charity organisation.

The new Tipton Community Association will combine all the expertise of running the centre, with regular activities like indoor bowls, sequence dancing and toddler playgroups, with the management of outdoor community events such as Tipton Canal Festival and Santa's Sleigh Tour.

The centre will be rebranded as Tipton Community Hub and a host of new activities and services will be introduced including Bloomfield Gold, a full programme of activities for the over 50's providing a lunch club, film shows, physical exercise etc.

Trustees

The Sherpa Project, a new advocacy and befriending service, will also be launched at the beginning of May, together with our own minibus transport available to service users.

The group wants to appoint two new trustees within the next few months and invites applications from anyone interested in becoming a charity trustee.

The person should have a keen interest in the local community and demonstrate a relevant skill which will enhance the team. Details from Steve Downing – 07958 684716.

Sounds of the sixties at centre

THERE will be sounds of the sixties and lots more besides on offer at a special event coming up to mark St George's Day in Tipton.

With reserved seating and a licensed bar, Brook Street Community Centre will be opening its doors on Saturday April 23, for a St George's Night Celebration, courtesy of the Tipton Community Association.

Billed as the UK's number one Beatles tribute band, The Fab Four will be appearing on the night along with Julie A Scott as Cilla Black, to add to the Merseyside flavour of the night's entertainment.

A bangers and mash supper is included in the £12.50 admission price.

For further information on the event, please contact 0121 557 0371 or 07958 684716.

The postcode for the community centre is DY4 9DD.

May Day fun at town park

LAST minute preparations are being made for this year's Princes End Community Fun Day, which is being held on Monday 2, from noon to 4pm.

The free admission event will feature trade and charity stalls, food and drink along with live entertainment, along with marching bands, and children's rides.

For more information on the May Day bank holiday event at Laybourne Park in Princes End, Tipton, contact 0121 557 0371.

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Lisa Maxwell – Page 17

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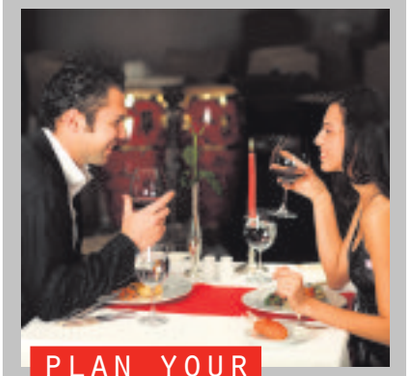

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Express & Star

Ken Dodd

Saturday, 7.30pm
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham
The legendary funnyman will be tickling the masses with his own brand of wit in the Happiness show. Expect more than five-hours of gags and music. Call 0844 871 3011.

Jeff Lynne's ELO

Saturday & Sunday,
Genting Arena
The iconic musician comes 'home' to deliver Alone in the Universe, the first new Electric Light Orchestra material in 15 years. Support comes from The Feeling
Visit **www.gentingarena.co.uk**

Rob Beckett

Saturday,
Stafford Gatehouse, 8pm
The comedian, a regular panellist on the likes of Mock the Week and 8 out of 10 Cats, gets his teeth into a host of issues, like Kit Kats in his Mouth of the South show. Visit **www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk**

Pasha Kovalev

Sunday, Grand Theatre
Wolverhampton
The 2014 Strictly winner tours with his new show It's All About You, featuring spectacular choreography and costumes. He is joined by colleague Strictly Anya Garnis.
Visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk

ROCK & POP

Moon Sugar
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
The Rainbow, Birmingham,
B12 0LD.
Call 0121 753 1818

Three Blind Mice
Thu at 8.30pm,
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge,
DY8 3TB.
Call 01384 374410

High Tyde
Tue at 8.30pm,
The Sunflower Lounge,
Birmingham, B5 4EG.
Call 0121 632 6756

Nerina Pallot
Tomorrow at 6pm - 10pm,
The Institute, Birmingham,
B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

The King Of Pop: The Legend Continues: Tribute
Thu at 7.30pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Wolfmother
Sat at 6pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

We Are Z
Thu at 7pm,
The Slade Rooms,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

The Mersey Beatles: The Beatles Tribute
Sat at 7.30pm, £16.50
Prince Of Wales Centre,
Cannock,
WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Cast
Sat at 7pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Jeff Lynne's ELO
Sat at 7.30pm, Sun at 7.30pm,
Genting Arena, Birmingham,
B40 1NT.
Call 0121 780 4141

Newton Faulkner
Sat at 6.30pm,
The Institute, Birmingham,
B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Abbamania: Tribute To Abba
Thu at 7.30pm, £19.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

The Spitfires
Wed at 7pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham,
B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Chas & Dave
Sat at 9pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Tasita d'Mour: Tina Turner Tribute
Thu at 9.30pm,
The Jam House, Birmingham,
B3 1QU.
Call 0121 200 3030

NAO
Wed at 7pm,
The Institute, Birmingham,
B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Marlon Williams
Thu at 7.30pm - 11pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Treetop Flyers
Sun at 7.30pm - 11pm, £8
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

The Young 'Uns
Mon at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

BLUES, JAZZ & SOUL

The Blues Band
Sat at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Blues Club With Playing Django
Sat at 4pm - 8pm,
Hare & Hounds, King's Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Special Kinda Madness: Specials & Madness Tribute
Sat at 7pm, £8
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Discharge
Sat at 6pm - 10pm,
The Rainbow, Birmingham,
B12 0LD. Call 0121 753 1818

Solo Piano Improvisation
Tomorrow at 7.45pm - 9pm,
Birmingham Conservatoire,
Birmingham City University,
B3 3HG. Call 0121 331 5901

David Franke
Wed at 7.30pm - 9.30pm,
Birmingham Conservatoire,
Birmingham City University,
B3 3HG.
Call 0121 331 5901

Code 46
Wed at 7pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham,
B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

City Of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra: Disney Frozen In Concert
Sat at 2pm, 6pm,
Symphony Hall,
Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Cash: Johnny Cash Tribute
Wed at 7pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Shalamar
Wed at 9pm,
The Jam House, Birmingham,
B31QU.
Call 0121 200 3030

CBSO Centre Stage: CBSO Cellos The Americas!
Thu at 1.10pm, £10
Symphony Hall,
Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

City Of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra: Romeo And Juliet
Wed at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

TV Smith
Tomorrow at 8.30pm,
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge,
DY8 3TB.
Call 01384 374410

COMEDY

Rob Beckett: Mouth Of The South
Sat at 8pm, £12 - £14
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Roy Chubby Brown
Tomorrow at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, £20 - £21
Palace Theatre, Redditch,
B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

Thursday Night Comedy Carousel
Thu at 7.30pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Gein's Family Giftshop's Trophy Collection
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Stuart Goldsmith: An Hour
Wed at 7.30pm,
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton,
WV1 1SE.
Call 01902 321321

Ken Dodd: The Happiness Show
Sat at 7pm,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham,
B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

THEATRE

Elf The Musical: Stafford Gatehouse Youth Theatre
Tomorrow at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Vienna Festival Ballet: Swan Lake
Wed at 7pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Return To The Forbidden Planet: Stafford Gatehouse Youth Theatre
Wed at 7pm, Thu at 7pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Late Night Love
Thu at 7.30pm,
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton,
WV1 1SE.
Call 01902 321321

Stig Of The Dump (Over 6s)
Sun at 3pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Scottish Opera & Music Theatre Wales: The Devil Inside
Mon at 7.30pm,
Birmingham Rep, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Pasha Kovalev: It's All About You
Sun at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Calamity Jane: Stafford & District Operatic Society
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm,
Thu at 7.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Ireland's Call
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham,
B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

My Friend Peter
Sun at 11.30am, 2.30pm,
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Working
Thu at 7.30pm,
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock,
WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Dalloway
Wed at 8pm,
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

How To Be Happy With The Speakmans
Thu at 8pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

End Of The Rainbow
Mon at 7.30pm, 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Music Theatre Wales: The Devil Inside
Mon at 7.30pm,
Birmingham Rep, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Derren Brown: Miracle
Tomorrow at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Twelfth Night
Tomorrow at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm, 7.30pm,
Birmingham Rep, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Folk
Tue at 7pm, 7.45pm, Wed at 7.45pm, Thu at 7.45pm,
Birmingham Rep, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Rumpelstiltskin: Big Brum Theatre
Sat at 11.30am, 2pm,
Birmingham Rep, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Breakfast At Tiffany's
Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm,
Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham,
B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Mary Poppins
Tomorrow at 7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2pm, 2pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £25.55 - £30.60
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

That'll Be The Day
Tomorrow at 7.30pm, £23.50
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

CLASSES & COURSES

Science Of Sound
Wed at 10am,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

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Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Pixie has Lott to offer in iconic role

POP princess Pixie Lott takes on the iconic role of Holly Golightly in a new touring production of Breakfast At Tiffany's.

Taking on the role made famous by the legendary Audrey Hepburn in 1961 film, the chart-topping singer will star alongside Downton Abbey actor Matt Barber, who stars as Fred. Former Bread and Goodnight Sweetheart Victor McGuire will play Joe Bell.

Making up the cast are Robert Calvert, Naomi Cranston, Charlie De Melo, Tim Frances, Andrew Joshi, Melanie La Barrie and Sevan Stephan, with Katy Allen and Andy Watkins.

Enigmatic

It reaches Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre next week, April 18 to 23, as part of a UK and Ireland tour that runs from March 3 to April 30, with Lott heading up the cast. It continues from June 13 to 25.

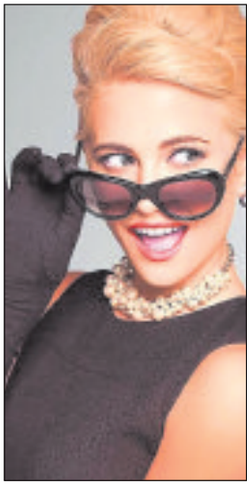
Emily Atack and former Corrie actress and Strictly contestant Georgia May-Foote are also lined up to take on the enigmatic role at some stage during the tour.

Truman Capote's classic novella, set in New York in 1943, has been adapted for the stage by Pulitzer Prize-winning finalist and Tony and Olivier Award-winning playwright Richard Greenberg and contains memorable songs from the era as well as original music by Grant Olding.

Still only 25, Lott has had three number one albums and topped the single charts three times with Mama Do, Boys and Girls and All About Tonight. She was a successful contestant on series 10 of Strictly Come Dancing in 2014

Director Nikolai Foster said: "It's a testament to the beauty of Capote's imagination, the extraordinary characters he created and Greenberg's faithful adaptation, that alongside Pixie and Matt, we have assembled such an accomplished company of actors to bring this dazzling play to life."

Call 0844 871 3011, for groups of 10-plus call 0844 871 3031 or visit www.atgtickets.com/birmingham



Pixie Lott as Holly Golightly

Pixie Lott and Matt Barber as Fred

Loose Woman Lisa fits The Bill as Judy

Will she be able to conquer her demons?

LISA Maxwell shakes off her Loose Women tag as she makes her stage acting debut as Judy Garland, hitting Wolverhampton next week.

Maxwell, a former children's TV presenter, who also represented the UK in A Song For Europe, performed alongside Russ Abbott in the early 1990s, but made her name in The Bill as DS Samantha Nixon.

She spent five years on ITV's Loose Women panel, but is now touring the UK in the West End and Broadway hit End of the Rainbow. It reaches the Grand Theatre from April 18-20 and also stars comedian Gary Wilmot and former EastEnders actor Sam Attwater.

Set in 1968, the once-glittering Judy Garland is in London to make an explosive comeback. But off stage, holed up in her hotel room, she is battling with her young new fiancé, her devoted accompanist, and her destructive addictions. Will she be able to conquer her demons and reclaim her crown as one of history's great musical icons?

The funny and emotionally-charged musical features some of Garland's most memorable songs including Somewhere Over the Rainbow.

Gary Wilmot will play Anthony. His own musical theatre stardom began when he played Bill Snibson in Me and My Girl at the Adelphi Theatre and has a host of theatre credits to his name.

Attwater, who plays Mickey, made his TV acting debut in 2009, playing Ricky in Hollyoaks.

Credits

The following year he joined EastEnders and its online spin-off EastEnders: E20, as Leon Small. Stage credits include Brad in the 40th anniversary tour of The Rocky Horror Show, Dreamboats and Petticoats in the West End, and the 2014 UK tour of Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. He won the sixth series of ITV's Dancing on Ice in 2011.

End of the Rainbow first premiered at the Sydney Opera House in 2005, before playing at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2006. It returned to the UK in 2010, transferring to the West End for a six-month run. It received four Olivier Award nominations. A Broadway run followed in 2012.

Showtimes are 7.30pm with a 2.30pm Wednesday matinee. Call 01902 429212 or visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk

Rockers Rabbit on at the Robin

COCKNEY rockers Chas n Dave will be giving it some Rabbit at the Robin 2 in Bilston this weekend.

The chirpy duo marked their 50th anniversary in showbusiness three years ago and play the Mount Pleasant venue on Saturday. Tickets are £22.50 in advance or £24.50 on the door.

Former Zombies frontman Colin Blunstone performs next week. Support on Wednesday, April 20, comes from Balsamo Deighton. Tickets are £16 in advance or £17.50 on the door, while punk legends UK Subs are in action the following night, tickets at £12 or £14.

Book at www.therobin.co.uk or on 01902 401211.

Comic duo mark 25th anniversary

COMEDY stars Reeves and Mortimer will perform in Birmingham as part of their forthcoming national tour.

The duo's live show, 25 years of Reeves and Mortimer: The Poignant Moments, plays at the Barclaycard Arena on December 9.

The show is a celebration of the first 25 years of their professional collaboration from Vic Reeves Big Night Out, through Smell of Reeves & Mortimer, Bang, Bang It's Reeves & Mortimer, Shooting Stars and House Of Fools.

For more details, or for ticket information, visit www.barclaycardarena.co.uk

X Factor winner has All That Jazz

HIT musical Chicago tops the list of dazzling new productions announced at the New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham.

The award-winning musical Chicago will be the Christmas show at the Station Street venue. It will be staged December 12 to 31. The casting has yet to be announced.

Fans don't have to wait that long, however, as the musical is being staged at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from June 20-25, starring X Factor winner Sam Bailey, former EastEnders actor John Partridge and another former soap star Hayley Tammadon. For ticket details, www.grandtheatre.co.uk

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, April 14, 2016

CHOICE

Michael McIntyre

Michael McIntyre's Big Show (BBC1, 7pm)

New series. The lively comedian hosts an evening of entertainment, recorded in front of an audience assembled at London's Theatre Royal on Drury Lane. Each week, Michael introduces sets by his fellow stand-ups, musical performances, dance revues and various other hijinks. He begins by inviting R&B star Tinie Tempah to perform, and the Peres Brothers Group put on a dazzling acrobatic show. The host also hijacks former Spice Girl Geri Horner's mobile phone in Celebrity Send To All, which sees him fire of an embassassing message to all the contacts in her directory, and one unsuspecting member of the public is given a chance to sing a special duet with Michael Ball.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** MasterChef. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day one at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.25** Can't Touch This.

6.15 Pointless Celebrities. Brix Smith-Start, Jonathan Phang, Amy Childs, Sam Faiers, Grace Woodward, Brendan Courtney, Lee Stafford and Nicky Clarke all take part in the unorthodox quiz show.

7.00 Michael McIntyre's Big Show. New series. The comedian hosts an evening of entertainment at London's Theatre Royal, beginning with music by Tinie Tempah and acrobatics by the Peres Brothers Group.

7.55 The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List. A former soldier and his wife team up to answer a selection of questions in the hope of winning life-changing prizes from their personal wish list. Shane Richie hosts. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws, with Kate Garraway.

8.45 Casualty. Rita receives the surprise of her life and struggles to control her emotions when a face from her past arrives at the ED. Medical drama, starring Chloe Howman.

9.35 Mrs Brown's Boys. Agnes and the Brown family await the fruits of their fraud after faking Grandad's death to get a payout, but the insurance company starts to grow suspicious. (R)

10.05 BBC News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Norwich City v Sunderland at Carrow Road and Chelsea v Manchester City at Stamford Bridge; National Lottery Update.

11.45 Live at the Apollo. Leading performers on the stand-up circuit share their light-hearted views on modern life in this show recorded before a packed house at London's Hammersmith Apollo. (R)

12.20 Snooker: World Championship Extra. **3.20** Snooker Classic Matches. **5.20** Weather for the Week Ahead. **5.25** BBC News.

BBC2

6.25 Film: The Magic Box. (1951) **8.10** Natural World. (R) **9.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.00** Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul. (R) **1.00 Film:** Lust for Life. (1956) Biopic of Van Gogh, starring Kirk Douglas. **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Flog It! (R) **4.30** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The afternoon session on day one at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. **5.30** Gardeners' World. (R)

6.00 Bake Off: Creme de la Creme. Chef Tom Kerridge hosts the search for Britain's best team of pastry chefs. Joining him at one of the country's grandest stately homes are 15 teams of pastry chefs, all wanting to prove that they are the "crème de la crème". (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. The concluding session on the opening day at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the first-round match featuring Stuart Bingham reaches a conclusion.

8.00 Grand Tours of Scotland. Paul Murton paddles a replica of a Rob Roy canoe from the 1890s along now-disused steamer routes, going from loch to loch in Argyll before heading out to Islay.

8.30 Dad's Army. Mainwaring and the platoon dress as firemen to take part in an initiative exercise, but soon find themselves tackling a real fire. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe and Clive Dunn. (R)

9.00 Tom Jones' 1950s: The Decade That Made Me. Tom Jones recalls his formative years in South Wales, in the first of four retrospective documentaries in which celebrated musicians look back at the decades that defined them.

10.00 Shirley. Biopic of Shirley Bassey, charting the singer's early career, from her roots in 1930s Cardiff to the start of her rise to stardom in the 1960s. Ruth Negga (Misfits) stars. (R)

11.10 Snooker: The World Championship. Jason Mohammad presents highlights of the evening session on the opening day at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.

12.00 Film: First Snow. (2006) **1.35 Film:** Freestyle. (2010) **2.55** This Is BBC Two. **5.30** Great British Garden Revival. (R)

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.15** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.45** The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.20** ITV News; Weather.; **12.29** Regional Programme. **12.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.30 Film:** Superman. (1978) Comic-strip adventure, starring Christopher Reeve. **4.25** The Wine Show. **5.30** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 You've Been Framed! Goes Wild. Harry Hill presents a selection of the wildest clips submitted to the show, including a video that demonstrates why breaking wind while taking a selfie is a bad idea.

7.00 Bang on the Money. New series. Rickie Haywood-Williams and Melvin Odoom host the show in which two teams of friends aim to hit a target number in a series of physical and mental challenges.

8.00 Britain's Got Talent. The nationwide talent contest continues as Ant and Dec go behind-the-scenes at the second round of auditions to meet some of this year's hopeful entertainers. As ever, Simon Cowell, Amanda Holden, Alesha Dixon and David Walliams take their seats on the judges' panel to rate the performances. Plus, both the Geordie hosts and all four judges have access to a Golden Buzzer, which they can use to send any entrant they believe has that extra something special straight through to the live semi-finals.

9.20 Play to the Whistle. New series. Holly Willoughby returns with the sports-themed comedy panel show, as Frank Lampard and Bradley Walsh are joined by Richard Osman, Tom Daley and Rob Beckett.

10.05 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Film: 2 Fast 2 Furious. (2003) A disgraced cop is given a chance to redeem himself by going undercover to bring a drug trafficker to justice. Thriller sequel, with Paul Walker.

12.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The King of Queens. (R) **6.35** Freeride World Tour. **7.05** The Grid. **7.30** MSA British Rally Championship. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.30** Formula 1: Chinese Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **2.00** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ayr and Newbury. **4.30** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. **5.30** Homes by the Sea.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Film: Ender's Game. (2013) Premiere. In the future, the human race has survived conflict with an alien race, but the prospect of war breaking out again is a constant threat. A gifted boy is selected as a potential military commander for the coming conflict, and subjected to a gruelling training program to prove his worth. Sci-fi adventure based on Orson Scott Card's novel, starring Asa Butterfield, Harrison Ford and Ben Kingsley.

9.15 Film: Die Hard 2. (1990) Tough cop John McClane arrives at an airport to pick up his wife, but finds himself plunged into a bloody life-or-death struggle. He must battle terrorists who have seized control of the terminal as part of a campaign to secure the release of a convicted drug baron. Action thriller sequel, starring Bruce Willis, Bonnie Bedelia, William Sadler, Franco Nero and William Atherton.

11.40 Jimmy Carr: Laughing & Joking. Stand-up comedy with the host of 8 Out of 10 Cats, recorded at London's Hammersmith Apollo in November last year, featuring his familiar brand of near-the-knuckle humour. (R)

12.35 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. The chef helps the owners of Jack's Waterfront, Michigan. (R) **1.30** Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Trevor demands Ste and Harry start paying their way. Nico worries Sienna has remembered everything, and Louis books a romantic getaway. (R) **3.40** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. Flower arranging at the Royal Cornwall Show. (R) **4.00** Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. Three homeowners in Luton compete to sell their homes. **4.55** Location, Location, Location. Two couples in Gloucestershire search for properties to reflect their new lifestyles. (R) **5.50** The King of Queens. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.30** The Saturday Show Live. **11.30** Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 2. (R) **12.25** Puppies Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **1.25** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **2.25** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **3.20** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **4.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **5.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)

6.10 NCIS: Los Angeles. A rocket engine expert is killed, leaving Eric to go undercover to ensure that classified technology remains secure.

7.05 NCIS: New Orleans. A man is killed during a city-wide blackout, and the team suspects his death is connected to the activities of opportunist thieves using the power cut as cover for a looting spree.

8.00 NCIS. DiNozzo, Bishop and her husband investigate a terrorist threat while they are stuck at Washington Dulles airport during bad weather at Thanksgiving weekend.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 The Championship: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's matches from the Championship, including Birmingham City v Burnley at St Andrew's, and Sheffield Wednesday v Ipswich Town at Hillsborough. Plus, a round-up of all the goals, the main talking points, and interviews with a selection of players and managers.

10.00 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and Goerge Riley present a round-up of the latest matches in League One and League Two, including Burton Albion v Barnsley, and Accrington Stanley v Morecambe.

10.30 NCIS: Greatest Ever Episodes. Part two of two. Gibbs continues to blame himself for Kate's death, and enlists Jenny's help to track down Ari – but they are nearly killed in a shoot-out. (R)

11.25 NCIS: Greatest Ever Episodes. The entombed body of a Marine sergeant is found, with evidence indicating he was buried alive. Meanwhile, Ziva David returns to replace Kate. (R)

12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 A History of Ancient Britain **8.00** Human Planet **9.00** Follow the Money **11.00** Dusty Springfield at the BBC **12.00** Definitely Dusty **1.00** Queens of Soul **2.00** Classic Soul at the BBC **3.00** Dusty Springfield at the BBC **4.00** Close

ITV2

11.00 Britain's Got Talent **12.25** Britain's Got More Talent **1.30** The Almost Impossible Gameshow **2.30** Scorpion **3.30 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **4.35** FYI Daily **4.40 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **5.40 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **6.55** FYI Daily **7.00 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **7.30 Film:** Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **8.30** FYI Daily **8.35 Film:** Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **9.20** Britain's Got More Talent **10.25** Celebrity Juice **11.10** Family Guy **12.40** American Dad! **1.35** The Cleveland Show **2.25** @elevenish **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

1.55 Inspector Morse **6.20 Film:** Columbo: Lady in Waiting (1971) **8.00** Foyle's War **10.00** Lewis **12.00** Blue Murder **1.30** Doctor at Large **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.45 Film: The Far Country (1954) **12.45 Film:** The Secret War of Harry Frigg (1967) **1.50** FYI Daily **1.55 Film:** The Secret War of Harry Frigg (1967) **3.00** British Superbike Championship Highlights **4.00 Film:** Goldfinger (1964) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10 Film:** Goldfinger (1964) **6.20** The Boxing Mavericks **7.20** The Big Fish Off **8.20 Film:** Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996) **9.25** FYI Daily **9.30 Film:** Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996) **10.00 Film:** Out for Justice (1991) **11.05** FYI Daily **11.10 Film:** Out for Justice (1991) **11.55 Film:** The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford (2007) **1.00** FYI Daily **1.05 Film:** The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford (2007) **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

1.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.30** The Goldbergs **4.00 Film:** Bride Wars (2009) **5.45** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Get Him to the Greek (2010) **11.10** Gogglebox **12.50** Rude Tube **1.55** The IT Crowd **2.50** How I Met Your Mother **3.35** Gogglebox

Film4

1.00 Clueless (1995) **3.00** A Monster in Paris (2011) **4.45** Imagine That (2009) **6.55** One Day (2011) **9.00** Faster (2010) **10.55** Fright Night (1985) **1.05** Nosferatu the Vampyre (1979) **3.20** Close

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CHOICE

Paul McCartney with Downton Abbey's Jim Carter

Jim Carter: Lonnie Donegan And Me
(ITV, 10.20pm)
The Downton Abbey star examines the influence of the 1950s singer, who released six number one singles at the height of the skiffle craze and was cited by John Lennon and Paul McCartney as a major influence in writing their own songs. Carter remembers how he saw the singer perform at a seaside variety show when he was 11, and discovers the origins of skiffle music, revealing how Donnegan was introduced to American folk music during national service. Featuring 1950s archive footage and interviews with some of the acclaimed musicians who were inspired by Donnegan's music.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.15** Flog It! (R) **3.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Lifeline. **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Life in the Air.

6.00 Paul O'Grady: The Sally Army and Me. Paul goes to Athens to assist with the migrant crisis. He also meets the leader of the charity and poses some hard questions, and helps a woman struggling to feed her children.

6.30 BBC News.

6.50 Regional Programme.

7.00 Countryfile. Joe Crowley and Anita Rani visit Dumfries and Galloway. Joe meets a cattle farmer trying to restore the popularity of a famous local breed, while Anita joins a photographer looking for wildlife at night and meets a group of volunteers plating trees in the mountains. Sean Fletcher helps out with restoration work at a medieval building in the Peak District, Adam Henson meets another nominee for Countryfile's Farming Hero, and Tom Heap investigates whether 2016 will be a hard year for farmers. Including Weather For The Week Ahead.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The team values more rarities at Hanbury Hall, Droitwich. Items featured include a jacket designed by Peter Blake, a nude painting and a sketch of Napoleon on his deathbed.

9.00 Undercover. Maya resumes her legal struggle with the US authorities, leading to a revelation that rocks her marriage to the core. Nick is confronted with a ghost from his past.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action.

11.40 Room 101 – Extra Storage. Extended version in which Frank Skinner invites Strictly head judge Len Goodman, actress and impressionist Ronni Ancona and quick-witted comic Tim Vine to discuss their pet hates. (R)

12.20 Snooker: World Championship Extra. **3.20** Snooker Classic Matches. **4.20** Weather for the Week Ahead.

BBC2

6.30 This Farming Life. (R) **7.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.00** An Island Parish. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** Countryfile. (R) **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. Coverage of the second session on the second day.

6.00 Jungle Animal Hospital: Natural World. The work of dedicated staff at an animal hospital in Guatemala, whose wards are full of exotic patients, many of them orphans rescued from the illegal pet trade. The film follows the team in their busiest year yet as they nurse the animals back to health, select a troop of spider monkeys for release and prepare a flock of precious scarlet macaws for freedom. (R)

7.00 Jumbo: The Plane That Changed the World. Documentary examining the origins and development of the Boeing 747, which was the world's first wide-bodied commercial airliner and revolutionised air travel after coming into service in 1970. In interviews filmed on the original prototype, chief engineer Joe Sutter and his team describe the challenges they faced, from exploding engines to vibrations that threatened to tear the aircraft apart, and test pilot Brien Wygle reveals how on the first flight they hooked up car batteries as back-ups in case of engine failure. (R)

8.00 Natural Born Winners. The athletes move on to India, where they are introduced to Kalaripayattu, a fighting style with a range of acrobatic moves and weapons that is considered the root of martial arts.

9.00 Horizon: Should We Close Our Zoos? Liz Bonnin reports on issues concerning zoos, exploring their role in preserving endangered species.

10.00 Film: The Spectacular Now. (2013) Premiere. A teenage loner bonds with a drunken classmate who helps her create a new persona for herself to boost her confidence. Drama, starring Miles Teller and Shailene Woodley.

11.30 Snooker: The World Championship.

12.20 The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story. (R) **1.05** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.05** Holby City. (R) **3.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.15** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.45** The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **8.00** Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.30** River Monsters. (R) **2.35** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **3.35** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **5.00** Tipping Point. (R)

6.00 All Star Family Fortunes. Opera singer Paul Potts and former MP Ann Widdecombe team up with their families in an attempt to win money for charity. Game show, hosted by Vernon Kay. (R)

6.35 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News; Weather.

7.00 The Chase Celebrity Special. Shane Williams, Sair Khan, Milton Jones and Tanni Grey-Thompson work as a team to take on quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize for charity.

8.00 The Durrells. Margo takes pride in her new job, but soon discovers where her greatest talent lies. Gerry and Leslie's social lives leave Louisa wondering if she made a mistake coming to Corfu.

9.00 Home Fires. The Czech officers organise a dance to keep morale up as the Battle of Britain intensifies. Joyce has some advice for Sarah which is not well-received, while Pat realises that somebody knows about her relationship with Marek. Allison's secret work for the police leaves her forced to decide where her loyalties lie. Steph fears that Stan is becoming a bad influence on his son, and Frances finds out that Peter's affair was more complicated than she thought.

10.05 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Jim Carter: Lonnie Donegan And Me. The Downton Abbey star examines the influence of the 1950s singer on pop music. He discovers the origins of skiffle music and recalls his own experiences of seeing Donnegan perform.

11.25 Premiership Rugby Union.

12.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** British Superbike Championship Highlights.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **1.30** Formula 1: Chinese Grand Prix Highlights. **3.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **4.30** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. **5.30** Channel 4 News.

6.00 Grand Designs: Living in the Country. Kevin McCloud looks at the challenges of self-building in the countryside, where design must embrace and enhance tradition, yet often overcome stringent planning constraints. Drawing on footage from the show's 15-year history, as well as new visits to extraordinary homes, he finds out how pioneers at the forefront of architecture are transforming agricultural and historic buildings, and bringing cutting-edge contemporary design to rural parts. (R)

7.00 The Fearless Chef. New series. Chef and restaurateur Kiran Jethwa goes on a culinary world tour, tracing ingredients to their source and preparing meals in unusual locations. His travels begin in Bolivia, where he goes in search of coca leaves, which can be used as a herb in tea and cooking. He meets some local farmers and harvests the leaves on sheer valley slopes, before using his crop to make a marinade for llama meat.

8.00 Hidden Britain by Drone. Part two of two. Tony Robinson presents aerial footage of a shipyard where aircraft carriers are built and a shipwreck on the Kent coast that is filled with explosives.

9.00 Indian Summers. Aafrin tries to prevent a bombing during Simla's silver jubilee celebrations without exposing his own secrets, but by enlisting Sooni's help, he places her life in danger.

10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R)

11.05 Film: Mud. (2012) Premiere. Two boys find a fugitive hiding out on an island on the Mississippi and help reunite him with his lost love. Drama, starring Matthew McConaughey.

1.05 Embarrassing Bodies Down Under. (R) **1.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Tickety Toc. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.10** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.30** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.45** Little Princess. (R) **7.55** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.50** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **9.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.20** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.35** LazyTown. (R) **10.05** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.40** The Championship: Football League Tonight. (R) **11.40** Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. (R) **12.15** The Gadget Show. (R) **1.15 Film:** The Princess Bride. (1987) Comic fantasy adventure, starring Cary Elwes. **3.15 Film:** Bend It Like Beckham. (2002) Comedy, starring Parminder Nagra and Keira Knightley. **5.30 Film:** Hercules. (1997) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Tate Donovan.

7.10 Now That's Funny! A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring laugh-out-loud unexpected personal moments now being shared with the world.

8.00 Penn & Teller: Fool Us in Vegas. An award-winning magician performs one of his favourite routines, the president of the Yale University Magic Club asks Jonathan Ross to assist with a card trick, and an Australian illusionist tries to dazzle Penn and Teller. The duo conclude the show with their own take on pulling a rabbit out of a hat.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Film: Going the Distance. (2010) Premiere. A woman from San Francisco falls in love with a man she meets while spending a summer in New York. When the time comes for her to return home, they decide to try to keep their relationship going, despite being on opposite sides of America. However, their friends become convinced their efforts are doomed to failure. Romantic comedy, starring Drew Barrymore.

11.05 Film: Mars Attacks! (1996) The inhabitants of Earth scramble to repel an invasion by a seemingly invincible Martian army. Tim Burton's sci-fi comedy, starring Jack Nicholson.

1.05 SuperCasino. **3.10** The Tube: Going Underground. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.50** Great Artists. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Trad Jazz Britannia **8.00 Film:** Rock Around the Clock (1956) **9.15** Rock 'n' Roll America **12.15** Natural World: Tiger Island **1.15** Rich Hall's California Stars **2.45** Jerusalem: The Making of a Holy City **3.45** Close

ITV2
12.00 Take Me Out **1.10** Catchphrase **1.55 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **2.55** FYI Daily **3.00 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **3.45 Film:** Hotel Transylvania (2012) **4.50** FYI Daily **4.55 Film:** Hotel Transylvania (2012) **5.35** Britain's Got Talent **7.00** Britain's Got More Talent **8.00 Film:** After Earth (2013) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05 Film:** After Earth (2013) **10.00** Family Guy **11.55** American Dad! **12.55** The Cleveland Show **1.50** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** The Hot Desk: Fleur East **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
11.30 Film: Columbo: Lady in Waiting (1971) **1.10 Film:** Black Beauty (1994) **2.10** FYI Daily **2.15 Film:** Black Beauty (1994) **3.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.00** Midsomer Murders **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** The Cruise Ship **8.30** Royal Stories **9.00** Great Estates of Scotland **10.10 Film:** The Queen (2006) **11.10** FYI Daily **11.15 Film:** The Queen (2006) **12.20** Inspector Morse **2.20** Wycliffe **3.15** May the Best House Win **4.55** On the Buses **5.20** Judge Judy **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4
6.15 Football's Greatest: George Best **6.30** Pawn Stars **6.55** The Wine Show **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** Ransom (1996) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10 Film:** Ransom (1996) **11.25 Film:** How I Spent My Summer Vacation (2012) **12.30** FYI Daily **12.35 Film:** How I Spent My Summer Vacation (2012) **1.20** Hell on Wheels **2.20** Storage Wars: New York **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
12.30 Made in Chelsea **1.30** Couples Come Dine with Me **2.30** The Goldbergs **3.55 Film:** Dear John (2010) **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Tattoo Fixers **11.00** The IT Crowd **12.05** The Aliens **1.10** The 100 **2.10** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.55** Tattoo Fixers **3.50** Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 Escape from the Planet of the Apes (1971) **1.00** Brewster's Millions (1985) **3.05** City of Ember (2008) **4.55** Marley and Me (2008) **7.10** Legend (1985) **9.00** Now You See Me (2013) **11.15** Friday the 13th (2009) **1.10** Room 237 (2012)

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PICK OF THE WEEK

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Dangerous Company, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A businesswoman worries she has dementia after becoming forgetful – but something more sinister is at play. Thriller, starring Alicia Leigh Willis. Edited for daytime broadcast. (2015)

TUESDAY
Secrets of Eden, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A detective investigates the deaths of a couple, and becomes convinced the local pastor may be implicated in the tragedy. Drama, starring John Stamos and Anna Gunn. (2012)

WEDNESDAY
Along Came Polly, ITV, 10.45pm
An obsessively cautious man, whose wife left him on their honeymoon, crosses paths with a wildly spontaneous former classmate who throws his well-ordered routine into disarray. Yet in spite of their different outlooks on life, he starts to fall for her. Romantic comedy, starring Ben Stiller, Jennifer Aniston and Philip Seymour Hoffman. (2004)

GoldenEye, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

THURSDAY
The Husband She Met Online, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman turns to the internet for romance after breaking up with her unfaithful boyfriend. She thinks she has found the perfect man in the wealthy, charming head of a real-estate company, but soon comes to realise he has an obsessive nature and intends to take control of her life. Thriller, starring Meredith Monroe and Jason Gray-Stanford. (2013)

FRIDAY
The Good Mother, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A troubled teenager is taken in by a kind family, but suspects the mother has murdered her daughter and intends to kill again. Thriller, with Helen Slater. (2013)

GoldenEye, ITV, 10.40pm
James Bond heads for Russia to investigate the connection between the theft of an experimental helicopter and an orbital satellite weapon with the power to devastate entire cities. He discovers both have fallen into the hands of a criminal mastermind. Spy adventure, with Pierce Brosnan. (1995)

An unwelcome surprise is in store for Murray

Ben Miller has been giving his old comedy partner Alexander Armstrong a run for his money in the ubiquity stakes recently.

In February, the former Death in Paradise star returned to his scientific roots (he abandoned a PhD in solid state physics at Cambridge University to concentrate on comedy) by presenting the ITV series It's Not Rocket Science.

And now he's back on the BBC with the new sitcom I Want My Wife Back, which could probably also be counted as a return to familiar ground.

The sitcom is written and produced by Mark Bussell and Justin Sbresni, who previously collaborated with Ben on another comedy with a seemingly self-explanatory title, The Worst Week of My Life.

The first series, which aired in 2004, followed publishing executive Howard Steel during the run-up to his wedding, when he found himself plagued by everything from an obsessive ex to a hospitalised grandmother. It was followed by a second series and festive special, entitled (wait for it) The Worst Christmas of My Life.

However, as you may have already deduced, I Want My Wife Back follows a man whose main concern isn't making it to the church on time but staying out of the divorce court.

Ben stars as Murray, a seemingly happily married man who in this opening episode is in busy arranging a surprise 40th birthday party for his beloved wife Bex (Doc Martin's Caroline Catz, who knows a thing or two about playing long-suffering other halves). But it turns out that he's the one in for a shock when he hears that she's planning to leave him.He desperately tries to find her before the party, and is devastated when she confirms that she really is going.

So, naturally he tries to cancel the bash, only to find it's too late. As the guests begin to arrive, a shell-shocked Murray and Bex struggle to put on a brave face, and things get even worse when someone springs another very awkward birthday surprise.

Murray's heartbreak may not initially sound all that hilarious, but events will become increasingly farcial. Future episodes will see Murray try to find out exactly why Bex has left him and what he can do to win her back, and his friends, family and colleagues are only too ready to offer their well-meaning, if not always helpful, advice.

And while Murray may be struggling, Ben is definitely having a good time. He says: "I feel incredibly lucky to be back in the BBC comedy fold, playing the incredibly unlucky hero of I Want My Wife Back. With Mainstreet at the helm and Mark Bussell and Justin Sbresni on script, this truly feels like a match made in heaven."

Commissioning editor Chris Sussman adds: "It's a very modern farce with a great cast, and I can't wait to see it on TV. The writers do a brilliant job of putting Ben Miller down a hole and then watching him painfully trying to crawl his way out..."

Ben Miller stars in I Want My Wife Back, Monday, BBC1, 9.30pm

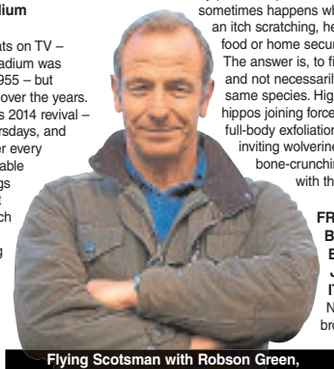
BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
The Hairy Bikers' Pubs That Built Britain
BBC2, 6.30pm
Si King and Dave Myers are setting out on a pub crawl with a difference in this new series. Instead of just propping up bars around the country, they'll be unearthing hundreds of years of fascinating history hidden in Britain's public houses, beginning in Yorkshire. They visit an establishment believed to have been drunk dry by troops the night before the Battle of Marston Moor during the English Civil War, while in York they learn about a pub that once doubled as a hospital and has a gruesome history.

TUESDAY
Fierce
ITV, 8pm
He's become a famous face thanks to his BBC shows, but Steve Backshall is journeying to 'the other side' for this six-part new series. In the past, Backshall has proved himself to be a fearless adventurer, somebody who will stop at nothing to explore weird and wonderful wildernesses while getting up close and personal with a variety of creatures. He does the same here – and dices with the death in the process. As the title suggests, the idea is for him to showcase the world's most vicious animals - by meeting them face-to-face. Among the highlights will be Backshall's efforts to track down the endangered giant river otter, as well as encounters with the giant black caiman, komodo dragons and the fearless honey badger.

WEDNESDAY
Tonight at the London Palladium
ITV, 8pm
It may be one of the oldest formats on TV – Sunday Night at the London Palladium was first shown on ITV way back in 1955 – but it has undergone some changes over the years. In fact, it's even changed since its 2014 revival – the show has now moved to Thursdays, and instead of having a new presenter every week, it's been placed in the capable hands of Bradley Walsh. He brings his old-school light entertainment charm to this week's edition, which sees Cyndi Lauper and the cast of the musical Kinky Boots taking to the stage alongside Diversity, Ronan Keating, Troupe Diabolo, and The Royal British Legion Band and Corps of Drums Romford. If that wasn't eclectic enough, there's also comedy from Seann Walsh.

THURSDAY
Nature's Perfect Partners: Natural World
BBC2, 8pm
Bill Bailey narrates this natural history documentary telling the story of some of nature's most extraordinary partnerships, revealing what sometimes happens when animals need an itch scratching, help getting into food or home security assistance. The answer is, to find a partner – and not necessarily one of the same species. Highlights include hippos joining forces with fish for a full-body exfoliation and ravens inviting wolverines over for some bone-crunching assistance with their dinner.


Flying Scotsman with Robson Green, Friday, ITV, 9pm

FRIDAY
Barging Round Britain with John Sergeant
ITV, 8pm
New series. The broadcaster returns to travel more of Britain's canal network, exploring the extraordinary stories of the people and places on the way. The series starts with John navigating the Peak Forest Canal, which runs through stunning countryside from Buxworth in Derbyshire to Ashton-under-Lyne. Along the way, in Hyde he meets former boxer Ricky Hatton, who discusses his plans to revitalise the area and offer new opportunities to local youngsters, and joins a team of junior archaeologists at Mellor Mill, who are attempting to unearth the remains of what was once one of the world's largest mills.

Flying Scotsman with Robson Green
ITV, 9pm
The actor tells the story of the world's most famous steam locomotive, joining the team of craftsman responsible for it restoration and revealing the astonishing story behind its rebirth. Last year, the engine was lying in pieces in a workshop just outside Manchester where a team of engineers used traditional skills to restore the icon to its former glory. Not only will Robson tell the story of its restoration from the hub of the workshop, the Grantchester star also gets involved in the rebuild, meets the men and women responsible for it, and is present to witness the milestones in its reconstruction. And if he's lucky he might even get to fulfil a boyhood dream and ride on its footplate.

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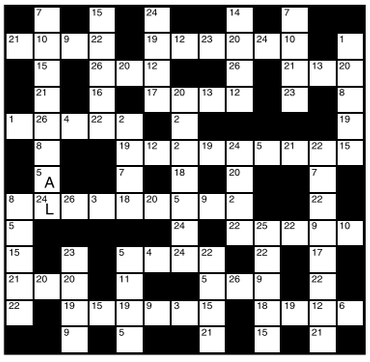
BRAIN GYM No.373

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



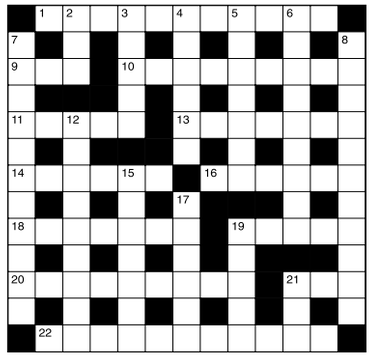
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5 A	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24 L
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
T	A	F	C	P	U	K	J	Y	W	N	V	S
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
I	R	Q	E	M	D	O	G	Z	B	L	H	X

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. It's not only cattle traders who deal here (5-6)
9. Tombstone inscription will produce a tear! (3)
10. Likely to cause ill-feeling (9)
11. Shows deficiencies - in need of tightening up, we hear (5)
13. What the referee needs when it comes to blows! (7)
14. Discovers how low noises are (6)
16. A wheel cover, we hear, is something that people can put on themselves (6)
18. Chemical charge after dark, by the sound of it (7)
19. Settle and make a fire (5)
20. He notes the proceedings minute by minute (9)
21. In the freight a residual coal product (3)
22. Suffering from cardiac arteriosclerosis? (4-7)

Down

2. It whirls round the summit (3)
3. Irons a suit (5)
4. Red Indian doctor getting the bird! (6)
5. For the practical man art lies in ruins (7)
6. Providing a certain name is giving one a claim (9)
7. Absence of works of creative imagination will show naivety (11)
8. Classify crossword compilers as experts in letter arrangements! (4-7)
12. Shellfish could act as cure (9)
15. The road to the cemetery, maybe! (4-3)
17. Just the word to open with (6)
19. A bed to propagate shoots (5)
21. It's used by the driver for ball bearing (3)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Own (11)
9. Place (3)
10. Watchfulness (9)
11. Happen again (5)
13. Attire (7)
14. Chastise (6)
16. Thrashed (6)
18. Fancy (7)
19. Military student (5)
20. Fruit (9)
21. Brown (3)
22. Handed down as custom (11)

Down

2. Sever (3)
3. At no time (5)
4. Native American tent (6)
5. Outshine (7)
6. Produced (9)
7. Suitable (11)
8. High boots (11)
12. Receptacle (9)
15. Clergyman's salary (7)
17. Cease (6)
19. Creed (5)
21. Beverage (3)

Sudoku

5					9			8
	8			1			9	5
4	9		2		8			
		9				3	1	
	5		9		1			
	3	6			7	8		
					2		7	6
	2			4		9	8	
7	1		5					3

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	9	5	7	3	2	4	6	8
3	2	8	1	6	4	7	5	9
7	6	4	9	5	8	1	2	3
8	4	6	2	7	1	3	9	5
5	7	1	8	9	3	6	4	2
9	3	2	5	4	6	8	1	7
6	8	9	4	2	7	5	3	1
4	5	7	3	1	9	2	8	6
2	1	3	6	8	5	9	7	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Robs; 3 Encamped; 9 Learner; 10 Trade; 11 Gooseberries; 13 Onsets; 15 Thrush; 17 Dark thoughts; 20 Aspen; 21 Inhuman; 22 Finished; 23 Trot. Down: 1 Religion; 2 Bravo; 4 Nurses; 5 Afterthought; 6 Plateau; 7 Duet; 8 Undertakings; 12 Chestnut; 14 Sharpen; 16 Thrive; 18 Homer; 19 Calf. QUICK - Across: 1 Such; 3 Astonish; 9 Amateur; 10 Comic; 11 Discomposure; 13 Recess; 15 Cohere; 17 Overstrained; 20 Again; 21 Collide; 22 Skeleton; 23 News. Down: 1 Standard; 2 Crass; 4 Scrape; 5 Occasionally; 6 Immerse; 7 Hack; 8 Remonstrance; 12 Heedless; 14 Caviare; 16 Stucco; 18 Noise; 19 Pass.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. Which international cricket team has been captained by Kepler Wessels?
2. What do the letters HRT stand for?
3. Which country is called Hanguk in its native language?
4. What is the Severn bore?
5. For what is the Spanish city Jerez de la Frontera famous?
6. What is the title of the Marquess of Blandford's father?
7. In which year was the Thames barrier completed?
8. What is the common name of the fruit Citrus reticulata?
9. How is author Samuel Langhorne Clemens better known?
10. Which king had to deal with the Peasantsí Revolt of 1381?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Jupiter; 2 Northern Lights; 3 Dinah Sheridan; 4 Diphtheria; 5 Iron; 6 Zaire; 7 Bronze Age; 8 Seve Ballesteros; 9 The Raven; 10 Edinburgh.

Niner: RELOADING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

3856145 gives a seaman,
794567 gives a churchman,
521145 gives an athlete.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, April 14, 2016

Serving up taste of Spain

New restaurant owner Imran Iqbal has that extra helping of enthusiasm and it is paying off, as MARK SHIPP finds out

Empty shop unit transformed to bring a taste of Spain to one small corner of Walsall

Spanish theme throughout the tastefully-decorated interior

TAKE an empty shop unit, add a touch of ambition, sprinkle in some themed decor and mix together with genuine Spanish fare.

Top it all off with a chef from Barcelona and you have a taste of Spain in one small corner of Walsall.

It might be one 'el' of a gamble but owner Imran Iqbal believes it is one worth taking.

For many years, Imran has set his sights on opening a Spanish-themed restaurant and has this year finally seen his vision realised.

Extensive research in his home town led Imran to believe such a concept was needed. He and business partner Azhar Nawaz visited Spain to learn about its culture, its food and its influences, and, after deciding it would be a success, even recruited chef Asad.

He's from Barcelona.

And he has 14 years experience working for a five-star hotel in the Catalonian city.

Flamenco

The venue in Goodall Street, a former bar, was not Imran's first choice, but this hidden gem is well-worth seeking out.

It is tastefully decorated to give it an authentic Spanish feel – and all Imran's own work. In fact, we half expected to be serenaded by a woman in flamenco dress playing the castanets.

The menu offers a range of tapas dishes, as well as pizza and salads, pasta, paella and risotto, even steaks and burgers and has an added desi fusion.

We chose a starter, ensalade feta tomate – that's tomato and feta salad, which we shared, but left it until our mains as the perfect accompaniment. Our mains choices were canelloni rossini for the better half and risotto de pollo for myself, topped with parmesan cheese, succulently creamy and with a not-too-overpowering hint of pepper.

Arriba means fast in Spanish so the name Ba Ba Reeba was chosen as a play on words to associate with quick service. It was not rapid, we discovered, but the best things come to those who wait in my book, so that was not a problem.

What's more, we were equipped with a device that could order drinks or call the staff from the comfort of our own table. Unfortunately, that does not include alcohol, though unique 'halal' non-alcoholic wines are served.

Despite demolishing my own dessert, the delicious crema catalana, I spent most of the time drooling over my other half's crepes, which came with ice cream and drizzled in strawberry sauce, so both of those come highly recommended. The former is akin to creme brulee with a hard sticky piece of caramel in the middle. Gorgeous. Ba Ba Reeba is not guaranteed to take off, but it deserves to, particularly if passion was any guarantee of success, as Imran has that in abundance and is determined to make it work. The food is a good start as it was delightful.

I agree there is a need for such a restaurant locally. However, the lack of alcohol could prove to be a stumbling block.

A drop of sangria certainly wouldn't go amiss with a bowl of paella or risotto, but that shouldn't put people off either, so it remains to be seen what others make of it. Early feedback is certainly promising with many positive remarks on online review pages.

Ba Ba Reeba caters for 50 diners. It is open for lunch from noon to 2pm and from 5-11pm Sunday to Thursday, on Friday from 5pm to midnight on Friday and on Saturday from noon to 2pm and 5pm to midnight.

For more details, or for special deals, call 01922 320486 or visit www.babareebauk.com

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- Off-Street Parking

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85 ALEXANDER ROAD, SMETHWICK

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- Through Lounge & Sitting Room
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- Cosmetic Improvement Needed
- ENERGY RATING : D

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NEW

7 HURST ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Semi-Detached CORNER Property
- Three Bedrooms and Shower room
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Open Plan Kitchen/Diner
- Off-Street Parking
- Needs Sympathetic Improvement

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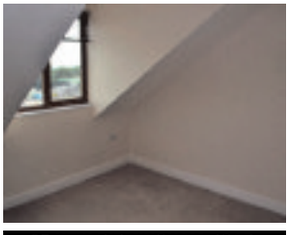
NEW



35 NEW BIRMINGHAM ROAD, TIVIDALE

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- ENERGY RATING : C

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- Dining Room & Lounge
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- ENERGY RATING : E

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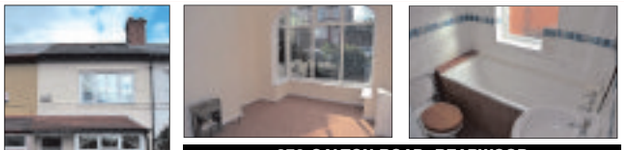

279 GALTON ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Recently Refurbished Property
- Three Bedrooms
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- Two Reception Rooms
- Morning Room
- INTERNAL INSPECTION NEEDED
- ENERGY RATING : E

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98 PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Deceptively Spacious
- PRIME LOCATION
- Three Bedrooms
- Fully Tiled Bathroom
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen (under floor heating)
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- VIEWING SIMPLY A MUST
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £210,000

48 CAPETHORN ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Traditional Freehold End Terraced
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom
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WEDNESBURY

Powis Avenue, Tipton

A well presented modern two bedroom extended detached bungalow with detached rear garage. Accommodation comprises of lounge, breakfast kitchen, two bedrooms, conservatory, shower room, front and rear gardens, double glazing and central heating.

Riverway, Wednesbury — £169,999

A traditional three bedroom semi detached property full of character and traditional features in a desirable location, also benefiting from no upward chain. Property comprises of three bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen with side entry, off road parking, double glazing and central heating.

Oakeswell Street, Wednesbury — £155,000

A three bedroom detached property briefly comprising of part double glazing and central heating, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, lean to, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden, off-road parking leading to garage.

Rachel Close, Tipton — £164,950

Viewing is advised to appreciate this well presented extended bungalow in a cul-de-sac location benefiting from no upward chain. Property comprises lounge, dining room, two double bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking with detached garage. Double glazing and central heating as specified.

Lodge Road, Wednesbury — £110,000

Viewing advised on this two bedroom semi-detached property briefly comprising of double glazing & central heating (were specified) Fitted kitchen, lounge, conservatory, laundry room, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden and driveway providing off-road parking.

The Manse, Hydes Road, Wednesbury — £450,000

Viewing essential on this period style six bedroom detached house full of character and charm. Accommodation comprises of three reception rooms, kitchen, utility, downstairs shower room, first floor bathroom, double garage, workshop and driveway providing off road parking.

Oxford Street, Wednesbury — £122,500

A three bedroom semi-detached property briefly comprising of double glazing &central heating, lounge, fitted kitchen, downstairs w/c, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden and driveway providing off-road parking.

Scott Street, Tipton — £250,000

VIEWING IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ON THIS SPACIOUS SIX BEDROOM PROPERTY. Having spacious living accommodation throughout its perfect for a large family. Comprises two reception rooms and conservatory, kitchen, downstairs wc, bathroom & shower room, garage and off road parking.

Clover Piece, Tipton — £112,000

A modern two bedroom semi detached property briefly comprising of double glazing & central heating (were specified) entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden and two allocated parking spaces.

Graham Close, Tipton — £159,950

A three bedroom semi-detached property on the Wednesbury Oak Estate briefly comprising of, double glazing and central heating, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility room, first floor bathroom, enclosed rear garden, drive-way providing off road parking and garage.

Beebee Road, Wednesbury — £169,950

A two bedroom detached bungalow briefly comprising of central heating & double glazing, lounge, fitted kitchen, shower room, separate W/C, enclosed rear garden, driveway providing off road parking leading to a garage and no upward chain.

The Oaks, Gospel Oak Road — FROM

A stunning range of eco friendly and desirable two and three bedroom houses from £124,950. Contact Connells estate agents in Wednesbury on 0121 556 2338 for more information. With over 55% of the site already reserved, call now to avoid disappointment.

Alexandra Grange, Alexandra Road — FROM

Mar City homes, Alexandra grange have a stunning range of brand new two, three and four bedroom homes. Having great transport links and great local amenities. Call now to arrange your viewing or more information.

Alexandra Grange, Alendra Road, Tipton — £154,995

The Astley II, A three bedroom property having 2 car parking spaces. Kitchen with fully integrated appliances included. French Door leading to Rear turfed garden. Flooring throughout included and is ready to move in now!

Lower Church Lane, Tipton — £169,750

A beautifully designed three bedroom property minutes from Tipton and all its amenities, which is an ideal choice for first time buyers, families and commuters alike. Comprising kitchen diner, spacious lounge, bathroom, ensuite, downstairs wc, off road parking. ●Help to buy is available●

Richard Parkes, Lloyd Street — £450 PCM

●TO LET● A range of two and one bedroom flats available to let in Wednesbury town centre having great transport links. Working professionals only. Available now.

Walsall Road, Darlaston — £650 PCM

●TO LET● A three bedroom detached property to let, having two reception rooms, and off road parking. Working professionals only. Available end of April.

Newman Road, Tipton — £650 PCM

●TO LET● A two bedroom semi detached bungalow to let, having fitted kitchen, off road parking, and lounge. Available now.

Wheelwright Close, Wednesbury — £700 PCM

●TO LET● A three / four bedroom modern town house to let which is available now. Comprising of off road parking and garage. Working proffessionals only.

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BEARWOOD

Selwyn Road Edgbaston — £280,000

This beautifully presented 5 bed Victorian detached house, is set in a poplar location in Edgbaston. Has recently been refurbished throughout, whilst keeping a lot of the original features & character. The property comprises of 2 large reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room & downstairs & upstairs shower room.

Bleakhouse Road Oldbury — £150,000

A spacious 3 bed semi-detached property comprising of 2 reception rooms upstairs bathroom and off road parking. PERFECT FOR INVESTORS OR FIRST TIME BUYERS! Viewing highly recommended!

Kent Street North Birmingham — £110,000

This property is beautifully presented two bedroom semi detached with off road car parking, and have close access links to City Centre and motorway exits.

Barleycorn Drive Smethwick — £110,000

A spacious 2 bedroom upper floor apartment comprising of a master bathroom and allocated parking space. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED! Perfect for first time buyers and investors!

Mansion Crescent Smethwick — £150,000

A fantastic opportunity to purchase this three bedroom family home located with a quite cul de sac, having being fully refurbished to the highest of standards and including allocated parking space to the front. THIS PROPERTY IS A MUST SEE.

Coopers Lane Smethwick — £160,000

Three bedroomed family home, situated opposite a popular school within walking distance to a range of local amentities. Including fully fitted kitchen.

CONNELLS ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUCE AND INTRODUCE THEIR NEW DYNAMIC SALES AND LETTING TEAM IN THE BEARWOOD OFFICE.

The Sales Team is led by Residential Sales Manager, Scott Leyshon, and the Lettings Team led by Karen Whitehouse. The combined team have over 20 years' experience in selling and letting houses, in the local area.

If you are looking to sell, buy, rent or let in Bearwood and the surrounding areas, you can rest assured that you are in safe hands with the motivational, inspiring and approachable team at Connells Bearwood. We aim to assist you from start to finish, as we offer many services including mortgage services, surveys and conveying, to deliver a professional and trouble free transaction.

This coupled with the teams 'can do' and 'go the extra mile' attitudes, it makes Connells your number 1 choice for an Estate and Letting Agent!

Handsworth New Road — £125,000

A well maintained three bedroom end terrace property situated on a corner plot, no upward chain in a popular and convenient residential location, having gas central heating and double glazing where specified, comprising entrance lobby, lounge dining room, kitchen, bathroom. Garage and gardens. EPC Rating E

Starkie Drive Oldbury — £150,000

A WELL MAINTAINED 2 bedroom semi-detached property comprising of an upstairs bathroom, downstairs shower room and conservatory. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO APPRECIATE THE SIZE! Perfect for first time buyers or investors!

Abbey Road Smethwick — £169,950

A traditional bay fronted three bedroom extended semi detached property ideally situated within close proximity to Warley Woods, having gas central heating and double glazing, comprising: entrance hall, lounge, dining room, rear lobby, kitchen, bathroom, upstairs and second bathroom. Garage, parking and gardens to front and rear.

Central Park Drive Hockley — £195,000

A mid townhouse having gas central heating and double glazing where specified and comprising: entrance hall, cloakroom, kitchen/diner, two reception rooms, four bedrooms, family bathroom, en-suite, gardens to rear. EPC: C

Shenstone Road Edgbaston — £160,000

This Victorian mid terrace is located in the renowned Edgbaston area with great links into the City Centre. The property entails three bedrooms upstairs with two reception rooms downstairs. Also having a modern fitted kitchen.

Long Hyde Road Smethwick — £220,000

●●●NOT TO BE MISSED THIS PERFECT THREE BEDROOM FAMILY HOME, SITUATED IN A POPLAR BEARWOOD LOCATION, BEING WELL MAINTAINED AD BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED THIS PROPERTY NEEDS TO BE VIEWED TO BE APPRECIATED.●●●●

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OLDBURY

William Road
Smethwick
£165,000

EPC RATING E - A well presented TRADITIONAL bay fronted semi detached home situated in this SOUGHT AFTER location with excellent access to local amenities.

Connells are selling properties FAST!

If you are thinking of selling please call Connells Oldbury **TODAY** for your **FREE VALUATION**

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Regent Road
Tividale
£137,000

EPC RATING E - Connells are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and much improved semi detached home situated in this POPULAR residential location with excellent access to all local amenities including good primary and secondary schools.

Vicarage Street
Oldbury
£115,000

EPC RATING AWAITED - An attractive and modern two bedroomed mid terraced property with kitchen diner, off road parking, rear garden, excellent motorway links, within walking distance to Langley Green Train Station and close to local shops and amenities. ●●VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED●●

Rood End Road
Oldbury
£99,950

EPC RATING AWAITED - This is a beautiful example of a period property stacked with original features and high ceilings. With two reception rooms, kitchen, cellar, two double bedrooms and bathroom. A MUST SEE!

Flash Road
Oldbury
£85,000

EPC RATING B - A MODERN second floor apartment overlooking park with allocated parking space, loft area and within walking distance to MAINLINE train station into London Euston and as far North as Glasgow, excellent motorway links and close to local amenities.

Ascot Close
Oldbury
£31,250

EPC RATING AWAITED - ●●25% SHARED OWNERSHIP with an option to buy 100% subject to appliation●● A well presented semi detached home situated in this POPULAR residential location with excellent access to motorway links and local amenities.

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WEST BROMWICH

Sams Lane
West Bromwich
£170,000

A well presented modern style three bedroom town house briefly comprising: entrance hall, study/guest room, downstairs WC, kitchen-diner and a first floor bathroom. The property also benefits from a lounge, second floor bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, allocated parking and gardens to the front and rear. EPC RATING B

St Stephens Road
West Bromwich
£115,000

A 3 bedroom end terrace property briefly comprising of an entrance hallway, lounge,downstairs WC, kitchen/diner, upstairs family bathroom, central heating, double glazing (where specified), rear garden, off road parking, large side garden. EPC RATING D

Hamsphire Road
West Bromwich
£105,000

A two bedroom semi-detached property situated on a CORNER PLOT and in need of cosmetic improvement, briefly comprising: entrance hall, lounge, kitchen and upstairs bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, OFF ROAD PARKING, a garage and gardens to the front and rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC RATING E

Allerton Lane
West Bromwich
£140,000

A well presented four bedroom mid terraced property comprising: entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, double glazing (where specified), front and rear gardens. This property is being sold with no upward chain. EPC RATING C

Bank Street
West Bromwich
£172,500

A 4 bedroom modern style house, comprising an entrance hallway, downstairs W/C, lounge, kitchen/diner and upstairs family bathroom. The property also benefits from an en-suite to the master bedroom, gas central heating, gardens to the front and rear, off road parking and side garage. ●NO UPWARD CHAIN● EPC RATING C

Middlemore Road
West Bromwich
£125,000

A THREE BEDROOM semi detached house comprising: entrance hall, lounge, CONSERVATORY, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, central heating and double glazing (both where specified), DRIVEWAY. EPC RATING E

Salters Park
West Bromwich
£207,500

●●OPEN HOUSE THIS SATURDAY 10AM-12PM - CALL US TO REGISTER●● A contemporary BRAND NEW 3 bedroom BARRATT HOME with 3 double bedrooms, both with en suite bathrooms, modern fitted breakfast kitchen, lounge with Juliette balcony and separate dining room. Stunning roof terrace. ●HELP TO BUY AVAILABLE●

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SITUATED in a designated warden-controlled modern development just off the main Hagley Road West in Oldbury, is for sale through Derek Spires at £49,500.

Designed and allocated for over 60s (or 55+ with a disability) they have the benefit of comprehensive day-to-day amenities. Easily maintained and well heated, this ground-floor flat has two bedrooms, a shower room, a lounge with sliding patio doors opening out to a paved terrace area, a kitchen, communal gardens and parking.

Contact Derek Spires on 0121 4204646 or visit www.derekspiresandco.com

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HAMBLETTS ROAD, B70 9NZ

- A Mid Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating,
- Majority Double Glazed
- Freehold, Awaiting EPC

£134,950

HOLYHEAD ROAD, WS10 7DQ

- A Well Presented Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Allocated Car Parking
- Storage Heating
- Fitted Kitchen

£90,000

ARLINGTON ROAD, B71 1AA

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage, Freehold

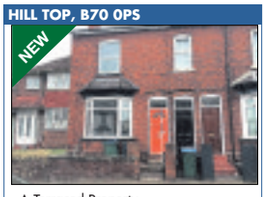
£195,000

GREEN LANE, B43 5LE

- A Semi Detached Bungalow
- Two bedrooms
- Garage At Rear
- No Upward Chain
- EPC RATING E, Freehold

£155,000

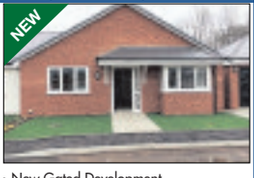
HILL TOP, B70 0PS



- A Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed
- Two Reception Rooms
- Freehold, No Upward Chain

£129,950

PLOT 6, LITTLE LANE, B71 4HR



- New Gated Development
- Three Bedrooms
- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Close To Sandwell Hospital
- Freehold EPC TBC

£249,950

PLOT 7, LITTLE LANE, B71 4HR

- New Gated Development
- Three Bedrooms
- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Close To Sandwell Hospital
- Freehold EPC TBC

£249,950

WYNDMILL CRESCENT, B71 3RB

- A Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Majority Double Glazed
- Central Heating, Conservatory
- EPC RATING C, Freehold

£184,950

CHURCH VALE, B71 4DJ

- A Refurbished Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Driveway For Four Cars
- Freehold, EPC TBC

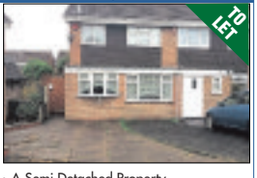
£204,950

CHURCH VALE, B71 4DD

- An Impressive Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating
- Freehold, EPC RATING E

£289,950

POMMEL CLOSE, WS5 4QE



- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazed

£650 Deposit Plus Other Fees

HILLARY AVENUE, WS10 0HE

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Lounge, Off Road Parking
- EPC RATING D, Freehold

£124,950

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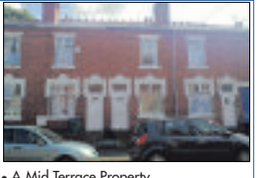

- A Mid Terrace Property
- Two/Three Bedroomed
- Two Reception Rooms
- Downstairs Shower Room
- EPC RATING F, Freehold

£99,950

MONARCH COURT, WS10 9FD

- A Duplex Apartment
- Two Bedrooms / En -Suite
- Excellent Location for Commuting
- Ideal 1st Time Buy
- Investment Opportunity
- Leasehold, EPC Rating F

£99,950

PLOT 9, LITTLE LANE, B71 4HR

- New Gated Development
- Three Bedrooms
- Detached Bungalow
- Close To Sandwell Hospital
- Freehold EPC TBC

£289,950

PLOT 10, LITTLE LANE, B71 4HR

- New Gated Development
- Three Bedrooms
- Detached Bungalow
- Close To Sandwell Hospital
- Freehold EPC TBC

£284,950

TUDOR COURT, DY4 8UX

- A Two Bedroom Flat
- Ground Floor
- Electric Heating
- Majority Double Glazed
- DSS ACCEPTED
- Available Now

DEPOSIT £450 PLUS OTHER FEES

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Harvills Grange showhome interior

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Tel: 0121 514 5818

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- SEMI IN SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION
- THREE WELL PROPORTIONED BEDROOMS
- RE FITTED KITCHEN & BATHROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- CENTRALLY HEATED
- OFF ROAD PARKING & CAR PORT

£149,995

CORONATION ROAD WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- 'A' RATED HEATING SYSTEM & DOUBLE GLAZING
- CAVITY WALL INSULATION
- LOVELY CORNER POSITION
- IDEAL FOR SCHOOLS AND COMMUTING

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RUTLAND ROAD WEDNESBURY
- EXTENDED THREE BEDROOM SEMI
- THROUGH LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- SHOWER ROOM
- CONSERVATORY
- LOCATED ON POPULAR WOODS ESTATE

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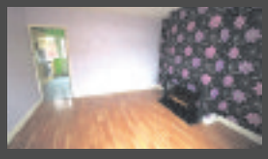
BERKSHIRE CRESCENT WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- IDEAL FAMILY HOME
- SHARED DRIVEWAY AND GARAGE
- CONSERVATORY
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- VACANT POSSESSION

£129,950

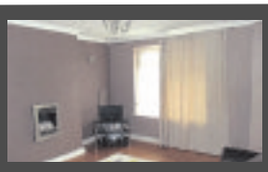


DARBY ROAD WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM MID TERRACE
- TWO RECPTION ROOMS
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- VACANT POSSESSION
- CENTRALLY HEATED
- LARGE REAR GARDEN

£120,000

DOE BANK ROAD TIPTON
- TRADITIONAL STYLE SEMI DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- CONSERVATORY
- OFF-ROAD PARKING FOR TWO CARS
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- CENTRAL HEATED

£119,950



HOLFORD AVENUE WALSALL
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE AND KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- CENTRAL HEATING
- REAR GARDEN & OFF ROAD PARKING
- GARAGE/STORAGE ROOM

£119,000

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DURHAM ROAD WEDNESBURY
- SEMI DETACHED
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS PLUS LOFT ROOM
- CONSERVATORY
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN WITH OUTBUILDINGS
- IDEAL FIRST PURCHASE OR INVESTMENT
- VACANT POSSESSION

£116,950

CORPORATION STREET WEDNESBURY
- VICTORIA SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- TWO BEDROOMS
- WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE TO THE TOWN
- SPACIOUS FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM
- PERIOD FEATURES
- LARGE GARDEN

£107,000

BRATCH CLOSE DUDLEY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI
- LIMITED MORTGAGE FINANCE AVAILABLE
- CASH BUYERS PREFERED
- POPULAR DEVELOPMENT
- CUL DE SACE
- VACANT POSSESSION

FOR SALE BY AUCTION GUIDE PRICE £100,000

COLES LANE WEST BROMWICH
- THREE BEDROOM END TOWN HOUSE
- REQUIRES MODERNISATION
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- CONDENSING CENTRAL HEATING
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- LARGE REAR GARDEN
- GARAGE TO REAR (DILAPIDATED)
- VACANT POSSESSION

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- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- GAMES ROOM
- FIVE BEDROOMS
- TWO ENSUITES

£220,000

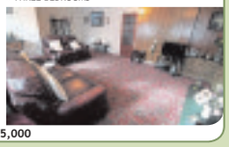
Copthall Road,Birmingham
- ●●Goodchilds●●
- Four Bedrooms
- Living/Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Downstairs Wet room
- Four Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazed

Offers in the Region Of £200,000

Comberford Drive,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM

£155,000

Park Street,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- THREE BEDROOMS



£145,000

St Christopher Drive,Wednesbury
- ●●GOODCHILDS●●
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Integrated Garage
- Living Room
- Dining Room

£140,000

LOOKING FOR A PROPERTY?

CALL OUR LOCAL OFFICES FOR MORE AVAILABLE PROPERTIES

Hawkswood Drive,Wednesbury
- Deceptively Spacious
- Three Bedrooms
- Re-Styled Master En-Suite
- Re-Styled Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- New UPVC Double Glazed Windows
- Well Presented

Fixed £134,950

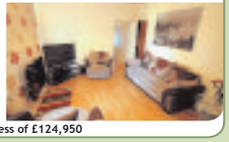
Stanbury Avenue,Wednesbury
- End terraced property
- Three spacious bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Family bathroom
- Downstairs WC
- Plentiful storage space
- Garage
- Double glazed and gas central heating

Offers in the Region Of £129,950

Pitchwood Close,Wednesbury
- Terraced Property
- NO UPWARD CHAIN!
- Three Story
- Three Bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Kitchen/Diner
- Rear Garden
- Garage

Offers in Excess of £130,000

Old Park Road,Wednesbury
- Terraced
- Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge Diner
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating



Offers in Excess of £124,950

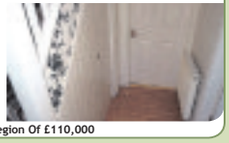
Johnson Road,Wednesbury
- ●●Goodchilds●●
- Semi Detached
- Two Bedrooms
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazed

Offers in the Region Of £120,000

Peel Close,Wednesbury
- ATTRACTIVE LOCATION
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- FITTED KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- TWO BEDROOMS

Offers in the Region Of £115,000

Crockford Road,West Bromwich
- Semi Detached
- Two Bedroom
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- Garage
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating



Offers in the Region Of £110,000

Crankhall Lane,Wednesbury
- ●●GOODCHILDS●●
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Living Room
- Dining Area
- Kitchen
- Off Road Parking

Offers in the Region Of £100,000

Kinsey Road,Smethwick
- Ideal investment
- Ground Floor Flat
- Two Bedroom
- Double Glazed
- Living Room
- Kitchen Area
- Bathroom
- Perfect for first time buyers

Offers in Excess of £99,000

View properties online www.goodchilds-uk.com

Offices located in

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- Erdington
- Lichfield
- Milton Keynes
- Stafford
- Stoke-on-Trent
- Sutton Coldfield
- Tamworth
- Telford
- Walsall
- Wednesbury
- Wednesfield
- Wolverhampton

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Goodchilds
Estate Agents & Lettings

Collins Road,Wednesbury

- Three Bedroom Semi Deatched
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £575

Sorbus Street,Bilston

- Two Bedroom Town House
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Master Bedroom with En-suite
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- SORRY NO DHSS
- TBC
- £90 Process Fee (per person)

Monthly Rental Of £575.00

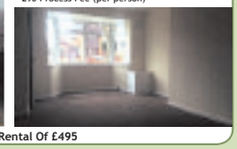
Tiffany Lane,Wolverhampton

- Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Driveway
- Front and Rear Garden
- Fitted Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £550

Dangerfield Lane,Wednesbury

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Front and Rear Garden
- Newly Refurbished
- SORRY NO DHSS
- TBC
- £90 Process Fee (per person)



Monthly Rental Of £495

Rounds Hill Road,Bilston

- Two Bedrooms
- Entrance Hallway
- Gas Central Heating
- Shared Rear Garden
- Fantastic Condition
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £495

Holyhead Road,

- Second Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Separate Kitchen
- Double Glazing / Electric Heating
- Sorry NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Myvod Road,West Midlands

- Two Bedroom
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

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A Free Rent Guarantee? ✔

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Windsor Road,Stourbridge

- First Floor
- One Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- BRAND NEW - NEVER BEFORE LIVED IN
- Communal Off Road Parking

Monthly Rental Of £495

The Avenue,Darlaston

- Two Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Allocated Parking
- Secure Buzzer Entrance
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Walsall Street,Wednesbury

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazing
- Secured Accses
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £425

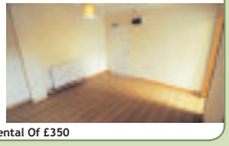
Westbourne Court,Darlaston

- Double Glazing
- Electric storage heating
- Ground Floor
- Secured Entrance
- Close To Darlaston Centre
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £395

Princes end High Street,Dudley

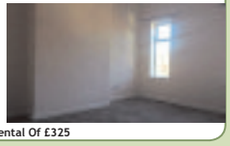
- Three Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Open Plan Kitchen/Diner
- DHSS ACCEPTED
- Deposit Required
- £90 Process Fee (Per Person)



Monthly Rental Of £350

Cross Street,Willenhall

- Located in the Town Centre
- One Bedroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Electric Heating
- DHSS Accepted



Monthly Rental Of £325

Talbot House,West Midlands

- One Bedroom upper Floor Flat
- Electric Heating
- Fitted Kitchen
- Newly Decorated
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £300

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NEW

- TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- ALLOCATED PARKING
- EN-SUITE SHOWER ROOM
- EPC RATING: C

Guide Price £250,000

Shelsley Avenue, Oldbury

NEW

- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED
- GARAGE & DRIVEWAY
- ENSUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £194,950

Bird Brook Close, Darlaston

NEW

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- NEUTRAL DECOR THROUGHOUT
- DRIVEWAY FOR THREE CARS
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £159,950

Kynance Grove, Bilston

NEW

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE
- GUEST WC
- KITCHEN / DINER
- EPC RATING: B

Offers in Excess of £159,950

Gill Street, Dudley

NEW

- TWO BEDROOM MODERN END-OF-TERRACE
- TWO LARGE RECEPTION ROOMS
- MODERN KITCHEN / DINER
- EPC RATING: E

Offers in Excess of £99,950

Roway Lane, Oldbury

- BEAUTIFUL SIX BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
- OFF ROAD PARKING AND GARAGE
- FRONT RECEPTION & REAR DINING ROOM
- EPC RATING: B

Guide Price £294,950

St. Oswalds Road, Birmingham

- EXTENDED FOUR BEDROOM TERRACED HOME
- TWO SPACIOUS RECEPTION ROOMS
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZED
- EPC RATING: E

Offers in Excess of £229,950

Bay Avenue, Bilston

- FIVE BEDROOM DETACHED HOME
- SET OVER THREE FLOORS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £224,950

Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury

- THREE BEDROOM DETACHED PROPERTY
- SEPERATE LARGE ANNEX
- CONSERVATORY AND OUTHOUSE
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £214,950

Cadgwith Gardens, Bilston

- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- SITUATED IN A QUIET CUL-DE-SAC
- OPEN PLAN DINING/BREAKFAST ROOM
- EPC RATING: E

Guide Price £189,950

Ditta Drive, Oldbury

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOME
- MODERN DECOR THROUGHOUT
- GARAGE AND OFF ROAD PARKING
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £159,950

The Furlong, Wednesbury

- 3 BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS
- EPC RATING: B

Offers in Excess of £119,950

Wellspring Gardens, Dudley

- TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT IN DUDLEY
- LARGE SPACIOUS ROOMS
- WARM FAMILY ROOM
- EPC RATING: B

Offers in Excess of £109,950

Wallows Road, Brierley Hill

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- MODERN KITCHEN WITH BREAKFAST/DINING
- LARGE FRONT & REAR GARDENS
- EPC RATING: E

Offers in Excess of £99,950

The Leverretts, Handsworth

- TWO BEDROOM END-OF-TERRACE HOUSE
- LARGE RECEPTION ROOM WITH GLASS DOORS
- UPSTAIRS FAMILY BATHROOM
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £94,950

Minton Road, Harborne

- THREE BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- DRIVEWAY AND GARAGE
- FRONT & REAR GARDENS
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £159,950

Wasperton Close, Birmingham

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOME
- ON A LARGE CORNER PLOT
- OFF ROAD PARKING/TANDEM GARAGE
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £119,950

Cambridge Crescent, Edgbaston

- MODERN TWO BEDROOM HOUSE
- UPSTAIRS FAMILY BATHROOM
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £109,950

Hellier Avenue, Tipton

- LOVELY THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- ON A LARGE PLOT OF LAND
- OFF ROAD PARKING WITH GARAGE
- EPC RATING: D

Offers in Excess of £99,950

Hudson Road, Tipton

- SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOM TERRACED
- DECORATED TO A TASTEFUL STANDARD
- NEWLY INSTALLED EXPENSIVE KITCHEN
- EPC RATING: C

Offers in Excess of £94,950

Wilday Close, West Bromwich

- THREE BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- LARGE CONSERVATORY
- GOOD SIZED LIVING ROOM
- GROUND FLOOR WC

Offers in Excess of £209,950

Heritage Way, Tipton

- THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- FULLY FURNISHED
- FITTED KITCHEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING

Offers in Excess of £209,950

Druids Avenue, Rowley Regis

- THREE BEDROOM LINK-DETACHED HOUSE
- NICE QUIET LOCATION
- GARAGE
- FRONT AND REAR GARDENS

Offers in Excess of £194,950

Great Arthur Street, Smethwick

- THREE BEDROOM MID-TERRACED HOME
- DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZED
- REAR GARDEN

Offers in Excess of £164,950

Macdonald Close, Tividale

- TWO BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
- LARGE REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- CORNER PLOT

Offers in Excess of £119,950

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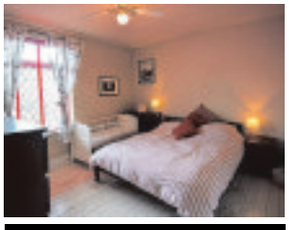
NEW



Ethel Street, Bearwood

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern Extended Kitchen
- Ideal First Purchase
- EP Rating TBC

Offers in the region of £134,950

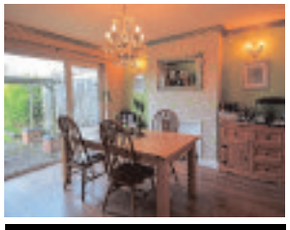
NEW

Galton Road, Bearwood

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Through Lounge
- Extended Kitchen
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £209,950

NEW



Hawne Lane, Halesowen

- Beautifully Presented Semi
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern Extended Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- EP Rating TBC

Offers in the region of £209,950

NEW

Hagley Road West, Oldbury

- 'Cottage Style' Semi Detached
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- Off Road Parking
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £164,950

NEW

Warley Croft, Oldbury

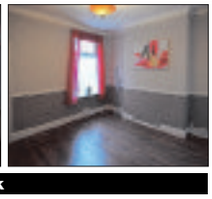
- Extended Semi Detached
- Beautifully Presented
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- En Suite Shower Room
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £349,950

Wigorn Road, Bearwood

- Well Presented End Terrace
- Off Road Parking
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Modern Style Kitchen
- Ground Floor WC
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £167,500



Arden Road, Smethwick

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- First Floor Bathroom
- Ideal First Purchase
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £117,500

NEW PRICE

Hagley Road West, Oldbury

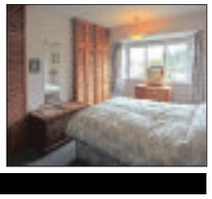
- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- Ideal Investment
- EP Rating F

Offers in the region of £124,950

Pargeter Road, Bearwood

SSTC in 5 DAYS!!!

Offers in the region of £139,950



White Road, Quinton

SSTC in 9 DAYS!!!

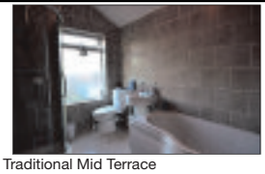
Offers in the region of £179,950

Barclay Road, Bearwood

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Period Features
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £244,950

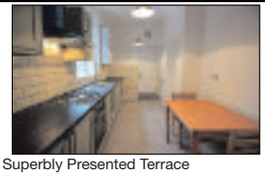
Pargeter Road, Bearwood



- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £137,500

Lightwoods Road, Bearwood



- Superbly Presented Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Stylish Breakfast Kitchen
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £197,500

Capethorn Road, Smethwick

- Tastefully Presented Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Period Features
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £119,950

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Wednesbury	Tipton	West Bromwich	Willenhall	Walsall	Bilston
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Brunel Drive
Tipton

- Modern Family Home
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Well Presented Accommodation
- No Upward Chain ● EPC D
- Lounge

- Fitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms ● En Suite Shower Room
- Family Bathroom,

Viewing

OFFERS AROUND: £127,000

Monins Avenue
Tipton

- Modern 3 Storey Semi Detached Town House
- Outstanding Canal Side Views
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- 3 / 4 Bedrooms ● En suite, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £155,000

Tividale Street
Tipton

- Attractive Modern Middle Terrace
- Gas Central Heating
- Ideal First Time Purchase
- well presented accommodation
- Lounge

- Fitted Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom,

Viewing

OFFERS AROUND: £104,950

Glebefields Road
Tipton

- Spacious Semi Detached Family Home
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- No Upward Chain
- 3 Bedrooms,

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £120,000

Sandys Grove
Tipton

- Superbly Presented Extended Family Home
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Extended To Rear - Viewing Recommended
- EPC Rating D
- Lounge ● Dining Room

- Fitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom
- 2 Car Driveway,

Viewing

OFFERS OVER: £130,000

Myrtle Terrace
Tipton

- Attractive Modern Link Detached
- Extended Accommodation ● Garage Conversion
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- EPC Rating D
- Lounge ● Dining Room

- Conservatory ● Fitted Kitchen
- Guest Room with En Suite
- 3 Bedrooms ● Family Bathroom with additional shower cubicle,

Viewing

OFFERS AROUND: £159,950

Brookfield Way
Tipton

- Modern Detached
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- No Upward Chain ● Viewing Recommended
- Integral Garage
- Lounge

- Fitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms ● En Suite Shower Room
- Family Bathroom,

Viewing

OFFERS AROUND: £149,950

CALL NOW FOR A FREE VALUATION

Whitgreave Street
West Bromwich

- Semi Detached House
- 2 Bedrooms
- Hallway, Lounge
- , Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £99,995

Farhill Close
West Bromwich

- End Terrace
- 3 bedrooms
- Lounge
- , Kitchen / Diner

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £125,000

York Crescent
West Bromwich

- Mid Town House
- 2 bedrooms, en suite to master
- Guest cloaks, Kitchen
- , Lounge

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £125,000

Ash Drive
West Bromwich

- Semi Detached House
- 3 bedrooms
- Porch, Lounge
- , Kitchen / Diner

Viewing: £132,500

Lloyd Street
West Bromwich

- Unique Detached Property
- Located within Dartmouth Park
- 2 Bedrooms
- , Lounge, Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £200,000

Bromford Lane
West Bromwich

- Mid Terrace House
- 2 Bedrooms
- 2 Reception rooms
- , Kitchen, Bathroom

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £115,000

Boswell Close
Wednesbury

- Detached Family Residence
- Four Bedrooms (one ground floor)
- Family Bathroom & Separate Shower Room
- EPC Rating E, Lounge, Dining Room & Modern

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £190,000

Manor Road
Wednesbury

- Mid Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Good Size Lounge
- , Modern Kitchen Incorporating Appliances

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £99,950

Friar Park Road
Wednesbury

- Spacious Modern End Terrace Residence
- Four Bedrooms, Two En-suites
- Lounge, Dining Room & Study
- EPC Rating C, Modern Kitchen & Bathroom

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £190,000

Hawkswood Drive
Wednesbury

- Modern Semi Detached Home
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge Incorporating Dining Space
- EPC Rating: C, Feature Conservatory

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £125,000

Longcroft Avenue
Wednesbury

- Modern Style Detached Residence
- Three Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Contemporary Style Kitchen
- EPC Rating - D, Through Lounge Incorporating

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £185,000

Somerset Crescent
Wednesbury

- Well Maintained Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms & Kitchen
- Energy Rating C, Shower Room With Separate WC

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £125,000

Millfields Road
West Bromwich — NEW

- New Build Detached
- 3 Bedrooms, en suite to master
- Guest Cloaks, Family Bathroom
- , Fitted Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £189,995

Albion Field Drive
West Bromwich — NEW

- Ground Floor Maisonette
- 1 Bedroom
- Lounge
- , Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £65,000

Grange Road
West Bromwich — NEW

- Mid Terrace
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge, Dining Room
- , Breakfast Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £135,000

Hall Green Road
West Bromwich

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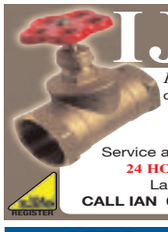

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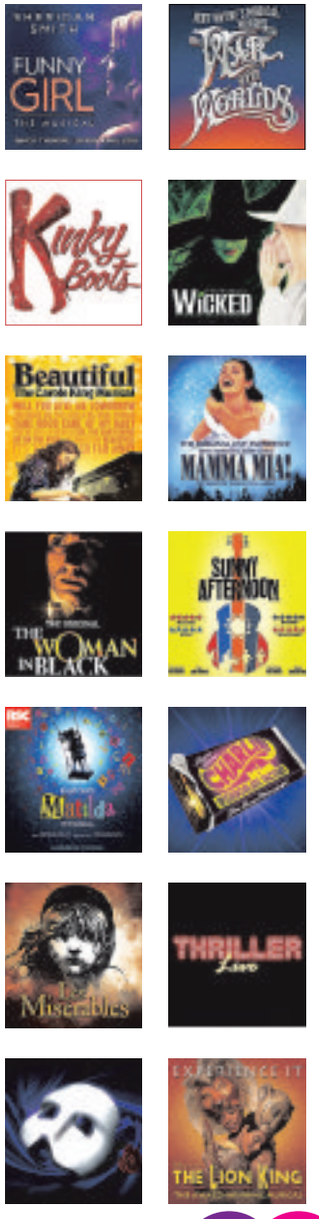

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0121 556 9481

t.v. / home entertainment

service

AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS: FREE Estimates on any TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection. All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation, Wall mounts / TV setups. 07850 330251.

specialists at your service

aerials

A1 RAPID AERIALS Plasma fitting, Sky repairs, same day service, free call out, 3 yr g'tee, oap discounts 07960 173589 or 0800 633 5899.

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bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk
and become one of hundreds of customers who regularly receive exclusive special offers & discounts.

ClassifiedAds

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1 AERIAL INTO 2 ROOMS £90
WE WILL BEAT ANY WRITTEN QUOTE
Work Guaranteed
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01384 429166
01543 439095
01922 716029
07833 738857
VISA MasterCard Checkatrade.com

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

appliance repairs

A SAME DAY REPAIR - Cookers Autos Fridges Vacs and Micros. Call 07900 578897 / 07801 746853.

building services

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
Over 35 years experience in the industry
All aspects of building work including: Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, driveways & landscaping.
Discounts offered.
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AD DAMP PROOFING
All building work, Roofing, Damp Problems, Plastering etc.
FREE QUOTES
APPROVED CONTRACTOR
07538 118034 or 01902 752161

cctv

RAPID SECURITY CCTV & alarms cameras, supplied and fitted, domestic and commercial, same day service, free call out. Call Robbi on 07960 173589/ 0800 633 5899.

carpentry & joinery

Collins
- Kitchen and fitted wardrobe Specialists
- Doors, floors and staircases
- All plastering projects catered for
- Domestic and Commercial
- Refurbishments

www.collinscarpentryandjoinery.co.uk
0121 537 2437/ 07903 234 137

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. Recession Prices.
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10
Call Paul 07870 341089

carpet fitters

A CARPETS & VINYLS supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598/07941 619694.

driveways & patios

BESPOKE LANDSCAPING
Garden Design Service, Block Paving-Slabbing & Patios, Tarmacadam, Walls-Gravel Gardens-Fencing-Sheds, Decking-Pergolas, Grass Cutting, Turf & Artificial Turf.
07910 439803/ 07738 852488
82 Holyhead Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 7PA

blinds

MADE-TO-MEASURE BLINDS SALE
UP TO **50% OFF***
MEASURING & FITTING INCLUDED
BLINDS | CURTAINS | SHUTTERS | CARPETS
HILLARYS

TO BOOK A **FREE** HOME APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR LOCAL ADVISOR CALL **0800 916 6563** OR VISIT **hillarys.co.uk**
*Ts & Cs apply

fencing

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards **£695**
Heavy duty panels supplied and fitted.
6x6 H/D Treated panels £15.95
6x5 Feather edge panels £18.95
8 foot concrete posts £8.95
12 inch x 6 foot gravel boards £7.95
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

gas fitting

GAS SERVICES
- Boilers
- Cookers
- Fires
- Gas Checks
- Landlord Certificates
- Gas Leaks Traced

Fitted, Serviced and Repaired
Same Day Service
Free Quotes
DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs
Call: 01902 366855/ 07761 973975

READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

gates

ALL METAL GATES,RAILINGS, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07903 500642 24 hours.

DARLASTON FABS 30 years experience in supplying gates and railings. Free quotes: 07497 667752.

handyman services

YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN
FREE QUOTES
All work guaranteed, All trades covered, References available on request. No job too big or too small!
CALL MIKE: 07947 621047
0121 6010479

LOCK AND CARPENTRY plumbing, plastering, slabbing and roofing 01902 683100 or 07934 460864

house clearances

A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE
Full, part and single rubbish removed.
Garage and sheds cleared.
Leather 3 piece suites and leather chesterfields wanted.
01922 492007

THE CURIO SHOP House clearance specialists. Everything cleared. Est 1969. 61 George Street, Walsall, WS1 1RS. Call 07841 596254.

A ABSOLUTE BEST CASH PRICE PAID
for house clearances and bereavements.
Shops, Schools and Commercial clearances
Also removals undertaken.
All rubbish removed. Carriers licence held
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

painters / decorators

DECORATOR
ALL domestic work undertaken
Reliable & Affordable
Special rates for OAPs
No job too SMALL
Call
07957 346 059

A PROFESSIONAL DECORATING service by RC Decorating. Free competitive quotes: 07773 025880.

C&D DECORATING City & Guilds / Wallpapering. Free quotes / OAP discount. 07973 286288.

plans prepared

ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

PROFESSIONAL HAND ink detailed drawings prepared. 01922 684503/ 07730 888063.

plastering

STEVES PLASTERING SERVICE Clean and Reliable, All Work Undertaken, All Areas, Call 0121 567 5919 / 07977 262943.

removals

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local
Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
Call Don: 07749 941319

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.

roofing

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

skip hire

A absolute affordable skip
RUSSELL SKIPS
Mini, midi skips
Prompt delivery / collection
(0121) 520 3388 / 07721 387990

GOLDSHILL SKIPS
Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices:
0121 557 3346

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD. Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service. Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call: 0121 555 6060.

STONES SKIP HIRE 0121 557 1480 / 07886 721875 www.stoneskiphire.co.uk

tiling

A FLOOR AND WALL TILER. Est., 27 years. Free quotes. Call Mark 07983 459088, 01902 664048.

tree services

BUDGET TREE SURGERY Tall or small. Conifers & hedge trimming. Shrubs pruned, tidy ups & make overs 01215053558/ 07936882552

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

vets

Express & Star
THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS

Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.

So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

commercial premises sale / to let

OFFICE TO RENT Furnished, Car park. 1/2 Mile J9 M6. £30PW inc. Monthly terms 07545 909693

UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE to let in Oldbury, West Bromwich and Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashmore Properties: 0121 520 5318.

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

FLAT TO RENT In Cannock, two bedrooms, large lounge, fitted kitchen, inc washer, fridge, cooker. £495pcm. No DSS. 07971 560336.

HEDNESFORD furnished shared accomodation, no smokers, ref's. Call 01543 422996.

HIGH STREET, WEST BROM, Modern Studio & 1 Bed Flats. Walking distance to town centre. Low rent / affordable deposit. DSS 35 + welcome. Call 07967 016425

ONE BED FLAT: WILLENHALL Town Centre. £90pwk. Deposit required. No texts. 07976 781003.

WILLENHALL 3-Bed House to Let, CH,DG, off road parking & Walsall: Rooms to Let. Call 07825 581676.

2-BED FLAT
Derby Court, Raleigh Street, Walsall, (Social Housing), eligibility age 30 plus. No Children. Communal area. No lifts. Letting subject to eligibility and availability.
Telephone 01922 613292.

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

SELL IT FAST SELL IT LOCAL
01902 317878

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properties wanted

EVERY TIME!
WE PAY 100% of purchase price

BLACK COUNTRY HOMES

We buy any house
- FAMILY BUSINESS
- FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE
- COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- NO FEES/FREE SOLICITORS

WE ALSO BUY LAND

30 yrs

0800 999 999 6
or 01902 628047 24/7 www.black-countryhomes.co.uk

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££
Houses / Land Required
Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**
Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

PROPERTIES WANTED
✔ Any area
✔ Any circumstances
✔ Any condition
Direct Sale | No Chains | No Stress
Fast CASH completion
Call Jack on **07507 865668**

7 Jobs

building & construction

CARDED SCAFFOLDERS & Drivers required for long term work. Call Clint at AMP Scaffold on 07739 526252 or 0121 580 0389.

courses

MTS HGV training, Willenhall. Minibus, 7.5 tonne C1 & car & trailer 01902 866510 / 07807 035066

engineering

MANUAL
OPTICAL PROFILE GRINDER/SURFACE GRINDER
or
CYLINDRICAL GRINDER
required for our busy tool room based in Oldbury
We would prefer fully experienced, but would consider good improver.
Full or part time
Wages negotiable
Email
grindtec@hotmail.co.uk

drivers

CLASS 1 DRIVER required, mainly steel work. Local work to Oldbury area. Experience essential. Telephone 07968 024623.

HGV 1 DRIVERS required. Local Trunking, AM & PM Shifts. Based in West Bromwich. Tel: 0121 500 2756

employment wanted

VERY EXPERIENCED CLASS 1 DRIVER. plus CPC. Any driving work considered, full / part or casual. 01922 512935.

manufacturing

SKILLED MILLING MACHINIST
required for work in a small conventional workshop in the **Oldbury, West Bromwich** area for the production of one off and small batch work.
No CNC machines.
Toolroom background preferred.
Must be experienced & versatile. Able to work to very close tolerances.
Use own initiative & have a mature outlook.
Good rates of pay.
Contact Frank Perks on 0121 553 6559
or email details to
frankperks@ymail.com

part time - general

NEWS DELIVERERS
needed in the
Myvod Road area of Wednesbury
Please contact
Customer Services on 0800 174064.

full time - general

PERTEMPS DRIVING DIVISION
OPEN DAY
Pertemps Driving Division the face of logistics
SATURDAY THE 16TH OF APRIL - 8AM TO 12PM
- VAN, 7.5 tonne, HGV 2 and HGV 1 Drivers required
- We are able to offer either full time or odd days work

PERTEMPS DRIVING DIVISION,
9-11 BULL STREET, RINGWAY,
WEST BROMWICH, B70 6EU
Please call either Kirsty, Amy or Craig at PERTEMPS on 0121 500 5161 to book an appointment

PART TIME HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGER
required for Wood Recyclers in West Bromwich.
Must Hold a NEBOSH National General Certificate and have some knowledge of machinery and engineering.
15-20 hours per week negotiable.
Salary to be discussed at interview.
Apply at
www.giffords.biz
and complete our online application form or ring
0121 500 4901.

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

SELLING YOUR CAR?
We have a package to suit every budget.
Packages start from as little as
£21.00 for 6 nights
Plus
6 nights free if you do not sell.
CALL
01902 317878

FORD MONDEO Zetec, 11 plate, 2.0 diesel, 6 speed, black, 152,000 miles, 12 months MoT, clean car, £4,000 ono. 07836 568903.

HYUNDAI i20
2012, Hyundai FSH, c/w manufacturers warranty breakdown cover, MoT till Mar 2017.
Excellent condition.
£4,500
07973 525533

LEXUS RX450 HYBRID
3.5, advanced, 5 dr, pan roof white, 70,000mls. Sat Nav, Parking aid incl camera. Full leather trim, electric memory heated seats. FSH, MoT till June, 19" alloys. Excellent condition.
£17,995 ono
07525 360771
01785 663573

MERCEDES PASSION 44 automatic, panoramic roof, FSH, full MoT, 66,000k, blue and silver, 1.2 petrol, £1,850. 07966 299746.

IMMACULATE
VAUXHALL INSIGNIA
2.0 CDTi, SE, 5-dr, auto, 2012.
32,000 miles, Vauxhall FSH.
Beautiful dark Luxor Pearlescent blue.
9 months MoT, no advisories.
1617 miles since last Vauxhall service.
Excellent condition inside and out.
£8250 ono.
0121 353 5109.

PEUGEOT 206cc sports convertible, 2006, silver, 12 months MoT, low mileage, good condition, alarm, £1,800 ono. 07510 657690.

RENAULT KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE
03, 1.2 16V, wheelchair access, red, 61,700 miles, over 11 months MoT no advisories, excellent condition for year.
£2,200.
0121 567 5286.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

MAZDA MX5 2001, (05), MoT October, British Racing Green, all in good order, £1,200 o.n.o. 01889 585826 or 07719 846251.

MERCEDES C CLASS 2.0 petrol automatic, 1994, colour green, £600 ono. 01543 375362 or 07779 480581.

PEUGEOT 207 1.4 diesel, 3-dr, blue, CAT C in 2012, 07, MoT Sept 2016, good condition, 91,000 miles, £1,200 ono. 07990 767148.

BMA www.bmacars.com Est. Here 25 Years
Wide Range of Cars from £500
07956 988517
Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JY

classic cars

MORRIS MINOR TRAVELLER
1971, MoT, tax exempt, 1275 engine, 5 speed box, disk breaks, good condition.
£7995.
01785 618554. Stafford

commercial vehicles

LDV MAXUS 3.2/120 LWB and high back, 07 plate, 9 months MoT, £2,500 ono. 07812 073206.

driving tuition

Homer's
10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
ADI/PDI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available for £10
07432 458100 / 01562 870060
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065 www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

SUZUKI 125 GAMMA 1987, long MoT, good condition for year, worth seeing. £900 ono. 07841 163389 / 01543 503349.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400. Evening 07813 184611 Oldbury Area.

vehicles wanted

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, 01902 597035.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regeneration and Economy
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.

This is a major application.

The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the Development Plan in force in the area in which it is situated.

DC/16/59279	Mr Michael Davies Sandwell Power Ltd	Land To The North (adjacent Metro Line) Bilport Lane Wednesbury WS10 0PD	Proposed construction of a standing reserve power plant comprising 14 No. gas reciprocating engine generators with an office and storage building, security and acoustic fencing, other ancillary structures and associated works.

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE

(between 8.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Wednesday and 8.00a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.

Mr Nick Bubalo, Area Director – Regeneration and Economy

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Crosswells Road, Oldbury Level Crossing) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2016, has made an Order to to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Crosswells Road, Oldbury. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 17/04/16 (16.00hrs), effective from 16/04/16 (20.00hrs). Traffic will be diverted via Western Road, Tat Bank Road, Vicarage Road and vice-versa. Purpose – maintenance work to the railway line by Network Rail.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (New Street, Smethwick) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2016, has made an Order to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along New Street, Smethwick between Hill Street and Tollhouse Way. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 20/04/16, effective from 16/04/16. Traffic will be diverted via Tollhouse Way, Rolfe Street, Engine Street, Rabone Lane and vice-versa. Purpose – works to water apparatus.

MORE CATEGORIES
MORE CLASSIFICATIONS
MORE CHOICE
01902 317878
ClassifiedAds

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Elco Contracts Limited of Parsonage Street, Oldbury B69 4PH is applying to change an existing licence as follows:

To add an operating centre to keep FOUR goods vehicles and NIL trailers at Shaw General Trading Limited, Parsonage Street, Oldbury B69 4PH.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

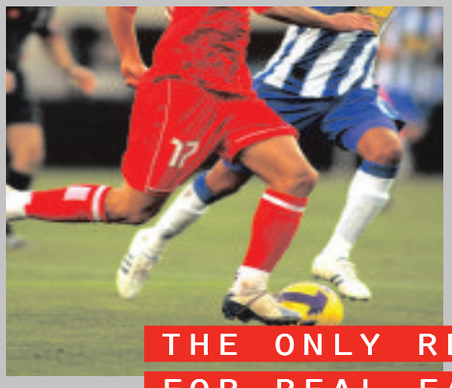
Dated: April 14, 2016

10 Personals

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Final whistle



THE ONLY READ FOR REAL FANS EVERY MONDAY

If you want the definitive read on the weekend football action there is only one place to go – Final whistle supplement in the Express & Star. Packed with match reports, infographics and player reaction, Final whistle offers the best football coverage around. With expert analysis from star pundits like Kevin Phillips, as well as graphics of the key moments, tables and stats, make sure you get your copy.
A real football read for real football fans.

TO ADVERTISE IN FINAL WHISTLE CALL OUR EXPERIENCED SALES TEAM ON 01902 31 31 31

An Express & Star supplement Express & Star

DATING

YOUR regional dating service, run by the dating experts who have been established since 1990. **REAL people in YOUR region**

Try it.. You'll love it!

Here's how to use your dating service ...

To **Place** your advert call:
0844 381 5936
and follow the simple instructions

To **Place** your ad by text
Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098** **FREE** Standard Network rates apply.

YOU can now **Date ONLINE** or via your mobile just visit:
http://dating.expressandstar.com

To **Reply** to members call:
0906 500 3955
calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

Have the adverts 6-digit box no written down and do **key-it-in promptly** when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

To **Reply** by text:
Text... **REPLY26** (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to **80098** eg: **REPLY26** 123456 **hi get in touch...** then send to **80098** Successfully received messages cost £1.50 per SMS received (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

Been left a message?
Pickup your replies on:
0906 500 3957
calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet **you.. visit..** **http://dating.expressandstar.com**

Single Women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

ATTRACTIVE, slim woman looking for fun and excitement with guy 35-40 pls text. **Text only Mailbox: 5419773**

ABIGAIL, 33yrs slim sophisticated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasures with a discreet experienced man, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 421339**

TINA, 43, young looking attractive single female looking for love, with similar lonely heart resorting to advertising in the hope of finding love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421613**

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 421375**

MANDY, 45, friendly outgoing arty female who loves wining/dining, looking for male to sweep me off my feet, take me out and make me feel special, reciprocation guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421503**

ROSIE, genuine well educated, sophisticated lady 29yrs WLTM fun loving chap, any age for chats, lunch, discreet meetings. **Box: 4124710 Text only**

SALLY 37 blonde, blue eyed, who loves life, music, letting my hair down, looking for similar flirty guy for enjoy TLC and life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421451**

JAYNE, bored housewife, 42yrs looking for someone to spice up her days with some fun and jokes. **Box: 4155728 Text only**

JESSICA 39, attractive fit/healthy blonde female enjoys travel, music, the Arts, gym, the good things in life, seeking love, laughter, LTR with similar male, 40-55yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421563**

HI I am Lorna 39yr old slim female, 5ft 5ins, many interests, loves music, seeking romantic male to enjoy special times together, hopefully leading to true love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421413**

JAYNE, 42, very pretty brunette, stylish, fun, loves the 60's, fine wine/restaurants, seeks professional gent for mutual life enhancement. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421311**

JO attractive 30's brunette who loves life, WLTM up for it male to enjoy nights in/out, weekends away, fun times and hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421259**

REBECCA tall slim elegant long legged romantic, sensual, professional, lots to offer, seeks similar male who also appreciates the finer things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421583**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box: 419673**

CARING honest female, WLTM genuine guy for LTR in Glos/Bristol area. **Text only Mailbox: 4209465**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

SUE, 39, slim feminine brunette, caring, fun loving, independent, no ties, OHAC, loves cooking, WLTM willing male to get to know and spend quality times. **Tel: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421617**

LUCY first time advertiser, 32yrs, tall slim blonde airline worker, seeks discreet gent, any status for casual fling. Looks/age unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box: 420237**

DONNA 42yrs young separated female who is ready to start dating again, bubbly, attractive, blonde and raring to get going, come on don't keep me waiting! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421567**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399**

SARA, 39, home owner, likes animals, tattoos and texting, looking for friendship hopefully leading to more. Get in touch! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421455**

KAREN, 42yrs, attractive and broadminded, seeks no strings fun with chap any age, must be discreet. **Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box: 407953**

Customer support
Call **0207 720 2130** Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm
or email us at **support@jmediauk.co.uk**

It's cheaper now to refresh your love life online!
Unlimited use for just £19.95 per month
VISIT: http://dating.expressandstar.com

LOUISE 35, loves meals out, WLTM tallish, considerate mature male who is not frightened to express themselves and enjoy life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421135**

ANGELA, 42, green eyed dark haired feminine lady who enjoys walking and keeping fit, seeking lonely kind gentleman for good times and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421115**

MARGARET 39, dark hair/eyed attractive petite divorcee, new to area and looking to start a new life, WLTM child friendly male, single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421129**

MONICA 35, very attractive, gorgeous curvy figure, WLTM nice male who wants to get to know a genuine black beauty to wine, dine, romance hopefully leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421241**

YVONNE, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun times with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420269**

48 year old, slim, green eyed female, n/s, likes meals out, local theatre, live local bands, nights in, looking for a gentleman, 48-52, for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420839**

MICHELLE 39yr old nurse, slim, petite, blonde, blue eyes, looking to enjoy life with similar romantic, caring guy. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420791**

DEBS lonely 40's female with no ties, GSOH, N/S, loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420729**

JULIE, 47, blonde brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, loves cuddling, kissing and showing affection, seeks similar energetic male friend for TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420357**

LILY, genuine lady looking for a genuine man. I like cosy nights in and am a smoker. **Text only mailbox no: 5372466**

ANNA, 41, new to single life seeking caring professional male for no strings fun, attention and laughter. Life is too short, lets enjoy it! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421127**

HONEST sincere affectionate nurse, 48, OHAC, WLTM child friendly male/single dad for dates, chats, laughter and more. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421111**

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417341**

SAMANTHA pretty brunette, very busty 36, intelligent, independent with a real lust for life, seeks big-hearted stocky male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420599**

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown eyes, generous curves, would love to spend cosy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985**

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

FEMALE, 37, new to area, would like to meet nice trustworthy man, for friendship hopefully more. **Text only to mailbox: 5392585**

BLACK lady seeks white male over 60, any location, for friendship and hopefully a lot more. **Text only to Mailbox no: 4256384**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

MAGGIE, 72 yrs young, good sense of humour, well presented, WLTM kind, sincere chappie to share coffee and a chat. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5310040**

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420043**

39 yr old independent single Mom, knows the benefit of having a good man in the picture. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5084796**

FRANCES, 45, busty female, loves nights in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420003**

FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy brunette. Discretion guaranteed. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311**

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418117**

BLUE eyed female, blonde hair, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989**

SALLY, 46, slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTM similar male for friendship and more, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420475**

LOUISE, 47, youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420445**

ALEXA 49 - slim, attractive, long-haired music loving female, with many interests including dining out, the arts, photography WLTM similar male. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5345662**

CHLOE pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420359**

ANN,38, very attractive female, N/S, positive attitude to life, WLTM similar kind male with a lot of get up and go for romance and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420355**

JACKIE lonely and looking for male company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl. call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418169**

SARAH, curvaceous brunette, 35, passionate nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTM date again, looking for male to take me out. Looks/Age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420207**

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418795**

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTM male for mutual companionship **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420195**

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420175**

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTM very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414701**

FEMALE, dark haired 5'10, curvy, likes reading, walking, cinema, seeks male 40-50 for lasting relationship. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5077545**

PROFESSIONAL black female age 52, enjoys evenings and days out, would like to meet similar Midlands male. **Text only to Mailbox no: 5315901**

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420073**

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FREYA 24yr old single mum, looking for male for free time frolics, call me if you're interested, it could be fun! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419851**

LISA 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman with a mind of her own. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419839**

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, sensual, tactile, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419821**

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, wltm a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883**

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, wltm a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cozy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419855**

Single Men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

PHIL, 53, 5ft7, stocky athletic build, likes keep fit, swimming, cosy nights in, meals out, WLTM an honest, attractive, caring lady, with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421385**

ROBERT, solvent gentleman, seeks female companion, to attend ice hockey, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421517**

MATURE 23 year old. Career minded. Workaholic. Looking for a chat maybe more? Age does not matter. **Text only Mailbox: 5423510**

NEIL 52, solvent, average build, GSOH seeks a caring romantic female for fun nights in and out, and lots of cuddles & kisses. **Text only Mailbox: 5418572**

YOUNG at heart male, smart, looks younger than age, likes socalising, looking for companionship & friendship. **Text only Mailbox: 5412069**

SHROPSHIRE trucker, 54, WLTM female, 40-65, black or white, for friendship, fun and hopefully more x **Text only Mailbox: 5411957**

WALSALL male looking for lady for no strings adult fun on a regular basis, within 10 miles of Walsall is preferred but not essential, age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420873**

IAN, 5ft8, medium build, OHAC, late 50s, likes most things, holidays, gardening, motorbikes, WLTM similar aged lady, 50-60, with nice personality. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421345**

DAVID, 41yrs still single and looking for Ms Right. He has a good job and a lovely bachelor pad which misses a lady's touch. **Box: 4096375 Text only**

JOHN, 60s, sincere, looking to love and be loved, hurt in the past, likes meals out, sports and east coast. **Text only Mailbox: 4467786**

TOM, 58, dark hair, 6ft, seeks older mature female. Size and looks not important. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421595**

PROFESSIONAL male 62, looking for curvy feminine woman, 50-70, for relationship, loves theatre, films, music, concerts and breaks away. **Text only Mailbox: 4435871**

YOUNG looking 56 single male, looking for a relationship with petite 40 to 50 year old, likes going out/staying in. **Text only Mailbox: 5428643**

MIKE, 6ft, medium to big build, WLTM lady for no stings fun, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421359**

MALE seeking female, 45 plus, status unimportant, discretion assured for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418481**

SMOKIN' rock geezer, 53, into gigging & camping WLTM rock chick 46-58ish, into similar, to share experiences, GSOH essential! **Text only Mailbox: 5414037**

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old male, slim, dark hair, likes music, bike rides and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**

DOMINANT Goddess sought by tall slim compliant white male, 50, who WLTM an elegant, sensual, high heeled lady, any age/race. **Text only Mailbox: 4673363**

MALE, 59, 5ft2, average build, looking for a genuine, caring lady, 55-65. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421089**

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CARING male, 55, N/S, medium build, likes meals out, music, cinema, sports, driving, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 239148**

MALE 63, N/S, honest, GSOH, car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817**

GENUINE male, 58, OHAC, looking for fun lady for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417601**

50ISH male, seeking lady 60-75 for daytime fun, must be discreet. **Text only Mailbox: 4624030**

GRAHAM, 50s, 5ft10, blue eyes, very smart, OHAC, solvent, smoker, WLTM a very feminine, sensual, high heels lady, 36-52, for romantic evenings out and holidays, South Cheshire, Staffs, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421103**

PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 18 plus for discreet adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401875**

STEVE 58 yrs, 6ft, average build, seeking woman for NSA mutual pleasure, marital status unimportant. **Text only to mailbox: 5400701**

YOUNG at heart lonely 55yr old male, 5ft 10, medium build, n/s, GSOH, loyal, looking for a female for adult fun time, possible LTR. **Text only to mailbox: 5321154**

FIT, handsome, Indian male, 40, GSOH, seeks Asian lady, 33-43 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 365160**

PHIL 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414991**

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709**

SOUTH Notts guy, 60, medium 5'10 seeks attractive lady for evening & weekend fun. **Text only Mailbox: 5339775**

MALE 63, N/S, GSOH, genuine, caring, likes music, travel, meals out, casual drink, seeks female, 50-70 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416997**

TREVOR 45, likes cinema, going out, some quiet nights in and looking for someone with similar interests. **Text only to mailbox: 5392042**

COLIN 48, loving, kind, seeks loving kind caring cuddly lady 48 to 54 for LTR, love and romance. **Text only to mailbox: 5308886**

MALE 51, seeks lady to spoil and pamper. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313191**

MALE 55, stocky, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407741**

MALE 57, seeking female, any age/looks for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416779**

TOBY, looking for a responsible lady, 30-50, sensible with money, loving, passionate, romantic, single mum of one welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420813**

MALE, 59, 5ft2, average build, seeks genuine, caring, lady, 55-65. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267**

JOSEPH attractive Asian male, seeking attractive, genuine female, 38-50 for friendship and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267**

HANDSOME, attractive, fit, Indian, professional trucker, 38, WLTM attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 219790**

MARK, 44, very interesting person, own business, sporty, honest and genuine, likes nights out, meals out, cinema, country walks, WLTM a lady for friendship and good company leading to a permanent relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420841**

MALE, 63, caring, easygoing, N/S seeks female 50-70 for friendship and romance. Looks unimportant. Likes occasional drink, eating in/out, cinema and driving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418893**

STEVEN, 39, caring and clean, looking for female for fun, laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420861**

MALE, 46, slim, WLTM a lady to settle me down, if that's you please get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420853**

62yr old professional male seeks female 55-70, curvy and feminine, for fun, laughter and relationship. **Text only to mailbox: 4435871**

Gay Singles

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

I am looking for discreet fun with a male, age doesn't matter, get in touch if you are interested. **Text only to mailbox: 4172337**

CAROL, bi curious lady, blonde, 5ft2, short hair, blue eyes, size 14, WLTM a similar lady between 50-60 years old. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421281**

CHRIS genuine gay female, 55, smoker, likes days out, cosy nights in, seeks local, feminine gay female, 40-50's for special relationship. Nottinghamshire. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 373131**

BI-CURIOUS 45 years old, slim and good looking, looking for younger bi-curious guy for discreet fun. **Text only to Mailbox: 4917435**

57YR old male, slim, fit, seeks guy, 30-45 for fun and friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309951**

BLACK male seeking black male aged 25 to 30, for discreet adult fun, maybe more. **Text only to Mailbox: 5409036**

SLIM late 50's male, seeks gay/bi/CD, slim-medium build, 25-42 for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 336329**

Just Friends

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

MODERN young at heart lonely lady, 70's, likes trips out, holidays, seeking similar lady for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410215**

LUKE 60's, seeking young Asian friend, 20-30's to socialise with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414841**

CALL CHARGES*: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 0844 calls cost 7 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT*: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk/. REPLY BY TEXT*: 80098/89990 costs £1.50 per SMS received (max 150 characters). Guaranteed up to 4 messages for each message you send, Service only available where phone icon shown. Messages are moderated. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. All messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to choose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. To STOP text stop to 80098/89990. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130. ALL SERVICES*: By texting any shortcode you consent to the owner of that shortcode sending you the occasional marketing message. To opt out of receiving these send NO INFO to 80098. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd, SW4 7BX, 0207 720 7130. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. Advertisers may come from our national database and from our pdc app. w/c 11/04/16

Great breadth of ability

By John Griffiths

In a world car market where the compact SUV is the fastest growing, and most competitive, it's good to see a manufacturer blazing its own trail.

Jeep's new Renegade certainly does that: its chunky, purposeful looks defy the convention for the 'hatchback on steroids' appearance of many of its crossover rivals.

It's instantly identifiable as a Jeep, not least because of the trademark seven-slot grille, and demonstrates pride and confidence of the brand's 75-year heritage of making sports utility vehicles.

But at the same time it represents the company's future: it's the first Jeep to be built outside the US (in Italy) and the first product resulting from a sharing of technology with its new partner Fiat.

The Renegade range does, of course, include two wheel drive versions with economical engines and low CO2 emissions – a must for this market – with prices from £17,295 but you wouldn't expect Jeep to produce a new model (it's first for a decade) without at least one version which was the real deal, a car with serious off-road ability.

This is the Trailhawk, the top of the range Trailhawk with a seemingly expensive price tag of £28,595.

But this is the chief Renegade, the flagship model which is not only the best equipped in terms of comfort and technology, it's also the most powerful and ready for tackling the most extreme terrain. It has skid plates underneath to protect the car's mechanicals, plus a set of low range gears, four wheel drive lock, multi-mode terrain response and hill descent control.

The overall design is more purposeful than pretty, with short overhangs front and rear and a high bonnet line which allows the driver to easily see the car's corners as you thread your way through boulders and trees (and car parks for that matter).

The Renegade proudly bears the red 'Trail Rated' badge which means it has passed a series of gruelling off-road tests. Yet this isn't the rough, semi-agricultural off-roader of yesteryear. In fact, its creature comforts and refinement on the road mean that, apart from the high seating position, you'd be hard put to distinguish the on-road experience from a decent hatchback or saloon.

It has longer travel, beefy suspension needed for tackling the rough stuff but on the road the ride is only slightly on the firm side, and far from uncomfortable. It is also almost surprisingly agile on twisty b-roads, with excellent body control and none of the rock 'n' roll of many traditional SUVs.

The nine (yes NINE) speed automatic gearbox ensures plenty of performance (under nine seconds for the 0 to 62mph sprint) with low revs and noise, while also aiding economy. You can change gear manually, too, if you want a sportier drive.

The 2.0 litre turbo diesel, the most powerful in the range with 170bhp, produces its maximum pulling power from just 1,750rpm and, in official laboratory tests was capable of averaging 47.9mpg. The test car returned just on 40mpg, which since this involved a high proportion of urban driving, was acceptable for a full-blown 4x4.

This equates to a CO2 rating of 155g/km. For those looking for something cheaper to run, there are a range of other engine options – the 120bhp, 1.6 multijet diesel for example, with a six-speed manual gearbox is nearly £10,000 cheaper to buy, and uses less fuel, with a 115g/km CO2 rating reducing your tax liability too.

Its chunky, purposeful looks defy the convention for the 'hatchback on steroids' appearance of many of its rivals

The car echoes the luxurious feel of its larger Jeep relatives, with leather upholstery (front are heated and electrically adjustable), dual-zone climate control and central control screen for navigation, audio and vehicle settings. The instruments are clear, and like the rest of the cabin, have an upmarket appearance. The tall cabin has room for five adults, and 351 litres of cargo space with the rear seats in place.

The test car had a panoramic sunroof with sun shield, which are independently, electrically retractable, which added extra light and more luxury as a £1,100 option.

This top of the range Trailhawk will probably be something of a niche product – a great many buyers in the compact SUV market will no doubt opt for the cheaper, smaller engined two wheel drive versions. But there will be those who will want to take the rough with the smooth, a car which can go where many of its rivals (including some full size SUVs) can't and is equally at home in the mountains or the city centre, There just aren't too many vehicles about with this breadth of ability.

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Terms and conditions apply. Images for illustration purposes only. Finance is provided, subject to status by Suzuki Financial Services Ltd. Applicants must be 18 years or over and UK resident (excludes Channel Islands and Isle of Man). Suzuki Financial Services Ltd reserves the right to withdraw or amend this offer without notice or prior warning. Suzuki Financial Services Ltd, part of Lloyds Banking Group, St William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff, CF10 5BH.

Italian style that appeals to the heart and head

By John Griffiths

Even Fiat must have been surprised by the success of its retro-styled 500 nearly a decade ago.

Cute, stylish and economical, the city car was a faithful but modern interpretation of the cheap and cheerful little model which was a mainstay of the Italian motor industry in the 50s, 60s and 70s, much as the Mini was here.

It was, however, significantly bigger: but perhaps not big enough to satisfy all would-be buyers, especially those with growing families. And so a larger, compact MPV (the 500L) was born and more recently its crossover, or compact SUV sibling the 500X.

Both are instantly recognisable members of the family, with the 500 'face' but the X is arguably the prettier, more stylish version, and was targetted at the fastest growing sector of the new car market.

Buyers seem to just love SUVs: there are lots of reasons from the high 'command' driving position, ease of access and image (even though the majority sold don't have a traditional SUV's all wheel drive system).

The 500X rivals many family-sized hatchbacks, with room for five adults, with plenty of headroom, and a decent 351 litres of boot space with easily foldable rear seats for a much larger, flat cargo area when the need arises. But is also has lots of style: it isn't only the car's face which reminds you of its little city car sibling. It's interior is perhaps rather more mature (as befits that 'growing family' buyer, but with features such as retro-look door handles, a body-coloured decor strip (bright alloy on top models) and a neatly intergrated infotainment screen with a wide range of functions.

The test car came in 'Lounge' trim, a front wheel drive version powered by a second generation multijet 1.6 litre turbo diesel which, at £20,935, is just about halfway up the 500X range.

The flagship model is the 'Cross' spec with all wheel drive, automatic transmission and a 2.0 litre diesel engine at a touch under £26,000.

The 1.6 turbo diesel, combined with a six-speed manual gearbox,isn't available with all wheel drive but it's still likely to be one of the most popular engine choices for both business and private buyers, The reason is it's blend of performance (0 to 62mph in 10.5 seconds)), economy (60mpg) and low CO2 emissions (109g'km) which translates into low road tax and benefit in kind costs.

It has plenty of torque from low revs for brisk, smooth progress and is quite, too – there's no audible clue to the fact it's an oil-burner under the bonnet.

Responses

You can adjust the driving mode with a rotary switch between the seats (standard, sport and winter), which acts on steering and throttle response. Sport mode does make the car feel instantly more lively, more of a 'driver's car' but it's perfectly adequate in standard mode for most purposes.

Winter mode speaks for it out, softening up responses for tackling slippery conditions and naturally on a modern car you have a full range of ekectronic wizardry including traction and stability systems..

While the 500X is taller than most hatchback rivals, the suspension is a good combination - supple enough to soak up the bumps yet firm enough to ensure accurate turn-in through the twisty bits without any appreciable body roll. It's a comfortable, grown up experience.

Many buyers will be happy with the front wheel drive version, as with many of the 500X's compact SUV rivals. The Fiat's automatic system is a competent affair, and comes on models with the range's two most powerful engines, the 140bhp petrol and the 170bhp (two litre) diesel.

The 'Lounge' test car came with front, side and curtain airbags, disc brakes all round, 18-inch alloys, tinted windows, rear parking sensors, electric wing mirrors remote controls on the steering wheel and a cruise control with speed limiter.

Atop the centre of the dash is the touch screen which monitors and controls a range of functions, including various car system settings and a comprehensive trip computer as well as the audio, Bluetooth and connectivity systems.

The test car was fitted with the optional £550 'Nav Pack', which includes a slightly larger (6.5 inch) screen. Press fleet vehicles tend to be kitted out to showcase what's available to buyers, so other extras included leather seats (£900), a sunroof (£950), heated front seats £175), and the 'winter pack' (heated steering wheel and windscreen) at £150.

The 500X faces some tough competition as more and more manufacturers chase sales in the compact SUV sector. But it has space, a range of engines which allow you to choose economy or performance (and a fair balance of both in the 1.6 diesel), there are two and four wheel drive options and it's competitively priced.

And, for many, there's no substitute for that Italian styling: it's pretty and practical, a car which appeals to both the heart and the head.

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CARS OF THE WEEK * CARS OF THE WEEK * CARS OF THE WEEK

2012 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6I 16V ACTIVE LIMITED EDITION, 5dr, 48,000 miles, white £6,995

2008 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8I VVT EXCLUSIV, 5dr, full MOT, 6 Month warranty, 48,085 miles £3,495

2003 CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE 1.9 D FORTE, 5dr, wheel chair converted, red, 36,791 miles £2,995

Vauxhall Adam Selection

2013/13 VAUXHALL ADAM JAM 1.2 Yellow 30,000 miles £6995
2014/14 VAUXHALL ADAM GLAM 1.2 Black, 9800 miles £9495

Vauxhall Agila Selection

2011/11 VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 SE AUTO 5 door, Blue, 23,190 miles £5750
2013/63 VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 SE 5 door, Silver, 3,000 miles £6995

Vauxhall Ampera Selection

2012/12 VAUXHALL AMPERA ELECTRON HYBRID White, 25,000 miles £14995
2012/12 VAUXHALL AMPERA 0.0 ELECTRON AUTO ELECTRIC HYBRID 5 door, Grey, 38,000 miles £14995

Vauxhall Antara Selection

2009/09 VAUXHALL ANTARA SE CDTi AUTO Blue Grey, 60,000 miles £8495
2012/61 VAUXHALL ANTARA 2.4i 16V 167PS EXCLUSIV 5 door, Black, 38,697 miles Was £9350 ..... Now £8495

Vauxhall Astra Selection

2006/06 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 ACTIVE Silver, Only 17,000 miles £3650
2007/07 VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI SPORT HATCH 1.6 3 door, Grey, 47,000 miles £3995
2008/58 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 DESIGN 3 door, Gold Sat Nav, 30,000 miles £5250
2011/11 VAUXHALL ASTRA TOURER EST CDTi 47,000 miles £6995
2012/12 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 ACTIVE 5 door, Black, 45,000 miles £7495
2012/12 VAUXHALLASTRA 1.6 SRi ESTATE, Silver, 28,000 miles £8250
2012/62 VAUXHALL ASTRA LTD EDITION Red, 28,000 miles, 5 door £8750
2012/62 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi LTD EDITION White-Black, only 10,000 miles £9495
2013/13 VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 TOURER SRI CDTI 5 Door, Blue, 34000 miles £9495
2015/15 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 DESIGN 5dr, Red, 12,000 miles £9495
2015/15 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 DESIGN White, 10,000 miles £9495
2015/15 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 DESIGN White £9650
2012/12 VAUXHALL ASTRA TOURER SE 2.0 CDTI 5 door, 24000 miles £9995
2015/15 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 1.4 5 door, White, 13,000 miles £9995
2014/64 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.3 DESIGN CDTi ECOFLEX 5 door, Silver, 7,316 miles ..... Now £9495
2013/63 VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC 2.0 CDTI AUTOMATIC. White 34,000 miles £10495
2014/14 VAUXHALLASTRA 1.4 ENERGY, 5 door, Silver, 5424 miles £10495
2014/64 VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC SPORT 2.0 CDTi S/S White, 8,759 miles £11995

Vauxhall Corsa Selection

2006/56 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN 5 door, only 26,000 miles £2995
2005/55 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4I 16V DESIGN AUTO, 5 door, Silver, 49,473 miles £3850
2010/59 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE 5 door, Blue, 28,000 miles £5995
2012/12 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SE 5 door, Silver, 20,000 miles £6495
2012/62 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 5 door, 9,000 miles, Silver £6495
2012/62 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SRi, Black, 20,000 miles £7195
2013/13 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SXr SAT NAV, 3 door, White, 14,400 miles £7650
2013/13 VAUXHALL CORSA SE 1.4, 5 door, Waterworld £7995
2013/63 VAUXHALL CORSA SRi 1.4 3 door, Black, 17,000 miles £7995
2014/64 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE 5 door, Grey, 10,000 miles £8495
2014/14 VAUXHALL CORSA LTD EDITION 3 door, Chilli Orange, 11,000 miles £8495
2010/10 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.6 VXR 3 door, Blue, 26,908 miles £8995
2015/64 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SE 5 door, Grey, 16,000 miles £8995
2012/12 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.6 VXR, 3 door, Red, 35,664 miles £9995

Vauxhall Cascada Selection

2013/13 VAUXHALL CASCADA 2.0 SE CDTi S/S, Black, 24,271 miles £13995
2013/13 VAUXHALL CASCADA SE 1.4 Turbo Convertible, Red Metallic Only 12,500 miles £14995
2013/13 VAUXHALL CASCADA ELITE CONVERTIBLE Grey, Full Leather, only 15,000 miles £14995
2013/13 VAUXHALL CASCADA 2.0 CDTI CONVERTIBLE Red Metallic 20,000 miles £14995
2013/13 VAUXHALL CASCADA 2.0 CDTi SE Gold, 13,300 miles, Diesel £14995
2015/15 VAUXHALL CASCADA DRTBL 2.0CDTi 170 ELITE, 2 door, Grey, 2346 miles £18495

Vauxhall Insignia Selection

2012/12 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 EXCLUSIV 43,000 miles, Silver Was £7450 ..... Now £7150
2012/61 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA EXCLUSIV 2.0 CDTi 5 door, Silver, only 18,000 miles Was £8995 ..... Now £8495
2012/62 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA CDTi NAV ECOFLEX 36,000 miles, Grey Was £9495 ..... Now £8995
2012/62 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRi SPORT TOURER 2.0 CDTi Grey, 38,000 miles £9495
2015/15 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8VVT DESIGN 5dr, Colour choice, 9,000 miles £11,995
2015/15 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8i VVT 140 SRi Hatchback. White, 9,583 miles Was £12495 ..... Now £11995
2013/13 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 SRi NAV CDTi, Carbon F, 41,200 miles £12150
2015/65 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRi 1.6 CDTi VXR LINE 5 door, White, Sat Nav etc £16995
2015/65 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRi VX LINE SPORT TOURER White, Sat Nav £17495

Vauxhall Mokka Selection

2013/63 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.4 T EXCLUSIVE Orange Rocks, 16,600 miles £13495
2014/14 VAUXHALL MOKKA EXCLUSIV 1.7 CDTi White, only 6,000 miles £13495
2015/64 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.4 T EXCLUSIV Orange Rock, 21,000 miles £13995
2014/14 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTI SE White, 18,000 miles £13995
2015/65 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTi TECHLINE Blue, 2,800 miles ..... SOLD
2015/15 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.4 T 4X4 EXCLUSIV Blue, 9,800 miles £16995
2007/07 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 ENERGY 57,600 miles £2650
2006/06 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.6 DESIGN, Blue, 37,699 miles £2995
2008/58 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 EXCLUSIVE, Silver, 46,500 miles £4995
2011/11 VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 SE AUTO, 5 door, Blue, 23,190 miles £5750
2012/12 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 EXCLUSIVE AC, Grey, 35,000 miles £6495
2012/12 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 DESIGN Silver, 36,000 miles Was £7795 ..... Now £7250
2012/12 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER EXCLUSIV 1.4 TURBO Silver, 29,000 miles £9995
2014/64 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 1.4 TURBO EXCLUSIV Silver Blue Metallic, 17,000 miles £12995
2015/65 VAUXHALL MERIVA EXCLUSIV CDTi AUTOMATIC only 10 miles, Choice of colours £12995

Vauxhall Vectra

2008/08 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 EXCLUSIV Silver, 49,000 miles £3495

Other Makes

2002/02 RENAULT MEGANE CABRIOLET 1.6 Silver, 52,000 miles £1995
2005/05 HYUNDAI GETZ 3 door, Red, 38,000 miles £2495
2005/05 MGF SUNSTORM Silver, 75,000 miles, IMMACULATE £2795
2007/57 NISSAN NOTE 1.4 ACENTA, Red, 67,000 miles £2995
2003/52 CITROEN BERLINGO 1.9 MULTISPACE 36,000 miles, with full wheelchair access, Red £3495
2003/53 VOLVO XC70 D5 SE A970 GEARTRONIC, Gold, 78,600 miles £4995
2009/09 SEAT IBIZA 1.4 SPORT, 3 door, 58,000 miles £4995
2003/03 MINI HATCHBACK 1.6 COOPER S 3 door, 43,916 miles, Blue £4995
2010/60 RENAULT GRAND MODUS 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE 5 door, 23,500 miles, Blue £5350
2012/12 KIA PICANTO 1 3 door, White, 25,000 miles £5495
2005/55 HYUNDAI TUCSON 45,000 miles, Silver £5495
2009/59 PEUGEOT 207 GT CONVERTIBLE Blue, 27,000 miles £6495
2012/62 CITROEN C3 VTR AIRDREAM 1.5 HDI, Blue 25k miles £7495
2011/61 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE Grey, 40,000 miles £7495
2007/07 TOYOTA RAV 4 XT5 2.0 Automatic, Blue, 59,000 miles £7495
2012/62 NISSAN JUKE ACENTA 1.6 SPORT Grey, 16,000 miles £9995
2012/12 L/R RANGE ROVER 2.2 EVOQUE PURE, White, 54,673 miles £25500

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No hiding place in this latest Bentley

By Ian Donaldson

THERE are two possible reactions to a Bentley that sounds like a purring lion heard through a rock group's sound system – and comes in retina-bruising yellow.

You'll either be given two fingers at the traffic lights – or instructions to 'park it over there, sir, because it's such a lovely car and we don't want it being scratched.'

Well, in more than 500 miles with the banana coloured beast there was not a single rude gesture, just lots of well mannered stares. If you value your privacy, don't buy a Bentley that looks as if its bodywork is illuminated from the inside.

The teenage lad liked it so much he captured the car on his mobile phone as it rumbled by in traffic; someone old enough to be his grannie correctly identified the car from fifty paces in the car park when her husband wondered out loud what it was.

The considerate parking came at a busy historic home open day when the only vacant spaces were reserved for disabled drivers.

The Bentley was guided into a place because the man in charge knew there'd still be lots of room for people who properly qualified (there was).

But, you are asking; what is the car like? You know ... how does it drive, how roomy is it, how much petrol does it drink? The sort of practical, everyday concerns we ordinary mortals have about our wheels.

Well, a Bentley owner has other things on his mind. If you're paying £164,800 for a car (read on for the extras!) you won't have price high on the list of must-haves.

It must look as though craftsmen went without sleep to make your car perfect and it must let the world know (discreetly in black, less so in Monaco Yellow) you're a person of substance. It does.

It must also make you and your passengers feel utterly special every time they slip into its exquisitely leathered interior.

How could they not when confronted with seats covered in hide that might otherwise make £1,000 handbags or faced with a piano black dashboard sanded and lacquered up to 18 times before being passed as Bentley quality.

More practical points come much further down the list for consideration. For starters, although the Continental Convertible is a very big car (about as long as a Range Rover Sport and even heavier) it has room in the rear for a couple of pre-teens, at best.

That vast roof, which can be folded on the move at up to 20mph has got to be stored somewhere when folded, which also means the boot is smaller than you'd expect. Big enough, though, for an expensive suitcase or two, which is rather more to the point of a car like this.

Keen drivers, once they've got used to the size and found a sweeping road or two will find themselves astonished at the way the car reacts to a firm prod of the elegantly alloyed throttle pedal.

Accompanied by the sound of close artillery fire from the optional sports exhaust (£1,935) it heads for the horizon as though warp drive had been engaged.

Here is a car that sits as so comfortably at 80mph that one eye needs to watch the big digital speedometer to keep points off the licence – even on a trip to Waitrose.

The optional ceramic brakes (£11,990 - yes, really) will haul you down from the car's 191mph top speed time and time again, although goodness knows where you'll be at the time. A 22mpg thirst on test means fewer trips to the pumps than you might imagine.

The 'S' in the test car's title means there is firmer air suspension, sharper steering and some subtle styling clues that you've gone for the sportier version. Add the yellow paint and sports exhaust and nobody will need convincing.

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Picanto 1.25 '2' 5dr Auto Blue	£11830	£1400	£10430	*Plus* £500 FDA
Picanto 1.0 SR7 3dr Black	£10330	£1100	£9230	*Plus* £500 FDA
Picanto 1.0 SR7 5dr White	£10045	£1100	£8945	*Plus* £500 FDA
RIO				
Rio 1.1 CRDi Air 5dr Red	£13530	£1350	£12180	*Plus* £600 FDA
Rio 1.25 SR7 3dr Black	£12330	£1335	£10995	*Plus* £600 FDA
Rio 1.4 '4' 5dr Grey	£16830	£1500	£15330	*Plus* £600 FDA
Rio 1.4 '2' 5dr Red	£14130	£1100	£13030	*Plus* £600 FDA
CEE'D				
Cee'd 1.4P SR7 5dr Red	£15750	£1250	£14500	*Plus* £1500 FDA
Pro_cee'd GT 3dr White	£23640	£1640	£22000	*Plus* £1500 FDA
VENGA				
Venga 1.6 Auto '4' White	£18350	£1600	£16750	
Venga 1.6 Auto '3' Grey	£17765	£1500	£16265	
Venga 1.4 '2' Red	£14405	£1406	£12999	
SOUL				
Soul Mixx 1.6 CRDi Red/Black	£20460	£2000	£18460	*Plus* £1000 FDA
Soul Conn+ 1.6 CRDi Auto White	£18100	£2000	£16100	*Plus* £1000 FDA
SORENTO				
Sorento KX2 Auto Silver	£34295	£2000	£32295	*Plus* £1250 FDA
Sorento KX2 Auto Grey	£34295	£2000	£32295	*Plus* £1250 FDA
Sorento KX3 Man Black	£38145	£2146	£35999	*Plus* £1250 FDA

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Picanto 5dr SR7 1.0P White	£10045	£2000	£8045
Picanto 5dr '3' 1.25P ISG Black	£12239	£2000	£10239
Picanto 5dr '3' 1.25P ISG Silver	£12239	£2000	£10239
Rio 5dr '1' 1.25P Silver	£11430	£2000	£9430
Cee'd SR7 1.4D Silver	£17570	£1900	£15670
Cee'd '1' 1.6D ISG Red	£16795	£1800	£14995
Carens SR7 1.7D ISG Black	£21235	£2700	£18535

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Suzuki has style and is a good performer

By Graham Breeze

Impressed at launch by Suzuki's new Vitara 1.4 Boosterjet I was keen to take a better look and after a week behind the wheel I'm still a fan of this mini Range Rover lookalike.

The new Vitara range arrived in 2015 to replace the popular 4X4 Grand Vitara with the promise of the direct injection four cylinder petrol engine Boosterjet to follow.

Now it's here and I don't think you'll be disappointed with the styling and performance, though you may put a question mark over parting company with £20,899.

Since arriving in 1988 the Vitara has been picking up accolades thanks to city styling married to capable on and off-road abilities and now just eight months after the UK launch the S model has been introduced, providing a more sporting and dynamic character to the Vitara line-up.

The biggest change is the arrival of the 1.4-litre petrol engine with the new Boosterjet technology. This 140PS direct injection turbocharged petrol unit takes Suzuki to a new level with torque available from 1,500 rpm, an incredible 41 per cent more than in the 1.6 – that's over 17 per cent more power, yet there's four per cent better fuel economy.

In fact the six-speed manual model on test averaged 52.3mpg on the combined cycle, while producing only 127g/km of emissions.

For the technical reader the Boosterjet engine uses a small displacement, high torque turbocharger. By controlling the waste gate valve, which closes to create higher boost pressure during heavy load operation and remains open during normal driving, the Boosterjet reduces pumping loss to achieve high levels of power and fuel efficiency.

Safety

Suzuki's Allgrip system is standard on the new S range with four driving modes of Auto, Snow, Lock and Sport.

There's also hill hold control, hill descent control and a comprehensive list of safety features including adaptive cruise control, an impact absorbing feature and a full set of airbags.

But it's not all about performance because the Vitara looks the part too. For my mind it's the best-looking Suzuki so far, firmly expressing the company's SUV styling with a solid looking appearance and a roof line that slopes sharply downwards towards the rear.

The unique S-model trim includes gloss black 17 inch alloys, vertical grille design, a rear upper spoiler, silver door mirrors and very neat red interior stitching on instruments, doors and seating.

You also get rear privacy glass, wheel arch extensions, front and rear silver skid pads, silver roof rails, chrome front grille and side trim and sporty aluminium pedals.

Also fitted are childproof rear door locks, a tyre pressure monitor, radar brake support, emergency stop signalling and a flat tyre pair kit, which means no spare.

There's a rear parking camera, front and rear parking sensors, adjustable steering and driver's seat, an easy-to-use information system, keyless entry, DAB radio, SatNav, Bluetooth connectivity and steering wheel audio controls

There is enough room inside for most needs with a 375 litre (13.24 cu.ft) boot which goes up to 710 litres (25.07 cu.ft) with the rear seats folded down.

The towing weight capacity is 1,200 kg (2,645 lb).

At launch I said the Vitara design looked to have been influenced by Range Rover Evoque, this latest arrival has even more quality but that is reflected in the price tag.

The Boosterjet S was well worth a second look. For a 1.4 you get surprisingly impressive performance and 12 months free road tax though I would expect a spare wheel in a 4X4 not an emergency repair kit.

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13	Meriva 1.4 SE Turbo Brown Only 5000 Miles	£8,995
11	Meriva 1.7 CDTI Exc Auto Silver Only 6000 Miles	£6,995
13	C4 1.6 VTR+ Auto Brown Only 6000 Miles	£7,995
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63	208 1.0 Access+ Brown Only 7000 Miles	£7,495
14	Hyundai I10 1.2 Premium Silver Only 7000 Miles	£7,995
62	Scenic 1.5 DCI Dyn Tomtom Blue Only 10000 Miles	£8,795
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62	C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Black Only 13000 Miles	£7,995
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62	Micra 1.2 Acenta Auto Red Only 17000 Miles	£6,995
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09	Fiesta 1.25 Style 3dr Gold 36k	£4,995
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13	C-Max 1.6 TDCI Titanium Bronze 18k	£10,995
62	Focus 1.6 Zetec Black 32k	£8,395
61	Focus 1.6 TDCI Zetec Blue 24k	£8,495
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08	Focus 2.0 TDCI Coupe Cab Red	£3,995
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62	Note 1.5 DCI N-Tec+ Blue 26k	£7,495
08	Note 1.6 Acenta Silver 45k	£3,795
62	Juke 1.5 DCI Acenta Black 29k	£9,995
62	Juke 1.6 Tekna Auto White 33k	£10,995
Peugeot		
13	208 1.4 HDI Active Red 34k	£6,995
62	308 1.6 HDI Active White 38k	£6,995
61	3008 1.6 HDI Sport EGC Grey 34k	£7,995
13	Partner 1.6 HDI Outdoor Blue 27k	£8,495
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63	Seat Leon 1.2 TSI SE Auto White 42k	£9,995
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In 2013 when they were fundraising for the new pavilion – Stephen Taft, Tony Banks and Daniel Kinsey

Outside the new pavilion, members of Springhill Cricket Club ready for the new season

Preparing for the new season, secretary Dan Kinsey with vice chairman Kevin Jones

Cricketers ready to spring into action

SPRINGHILL Cricket Club are in high spirits as the new season gets under way. The club, in Lower Penn, held its first AGM in its new pavilion recently and now all three of their teams are geared up for the new campaign in the Staffordshire Cricket Club Championship.

Springhill CC was set up in 1949 and they have been based at their present site since 1950. They had been without a clubhouse for more than a decade, though, as their old wooden pavilion was demolished in 2005 after an arson attack.

Three years ago, the club was awarded £50,000 of National Lottery funding to develop its new clubhouse and back in September, they secured a £50,000 grant from Biffa Award to complete the second phase of the development.

Backing

Sport England were among others to provide financial backing and the building, which cost an approximate total of £180,000, is now in place, with just a few finishing touches to put to it.

Club secretary Dan Kinsey is relieved to now have a 'solid' facility and said: "It is a brand new clubhouse, a facility that wasn't there at all previously. Our old wooden pavilion was burnt down 11 years ago, gutted in an arson attack, and it almost put the club to an end.

"The facility is solid, it is brand new. There are two changing rooms, which will have shower facilities. There are new toilet facilities, a big community room with a kitchen, and there will be a bar area too. We are putting the finishing touches to it now and, at some point in the summer, we will be hosting our grand opening for the building, which we see effectively as the relaunch of the club."

The club is being supported by South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson and NatWest Bank as they prepare the playing surface and construct new training nets for the forthcoming season. Volunteers from NatWest were due to help club members to fit the new mobile nets.

SPORTING MEMORIES

By Joe Edwards

"At some point in the summer, we will be hosting our grand opening for the building, which we see effectively as the relaunch of the club."

Recently the club held their pre-season social event with a celebratory barbecue, for those who have helped out at the ground.

"Gavin Williamson has been a massive supporter of our club. He has really helped along the way."

They have a new mobile cage to replace the old static nets which took a battering over the winter.

Promotion

Springhill's first XI remain in the Staffs Clubs Division Two this season. The seconds finished third in Division Four last term, behind winners Pelsall and Burntwood St Matthew's.

The third XI were 13th in Division Five, but they did enter the league as a new team.

Kinsey is particularly hoping the second XI gain promotion this term and added: "This year is a bit of a consolidating year for us. Our main aim, though, is for our second team to go up a division.

"Our first team are a strong side so we expect them to possibly challenge at the top again in the second division.

"We want our second team, who are in the fourth division, to really push for promotion.

"The thirds are still a new side, last season was their first as a team, so hopefully they can hold their own too."

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Hatton hits back with boxing show

RICKY Hatton's prospects will take centre stage when professional boxing returns to Walsall Football Club on Saturday May 14. Paid pugilism will again be the order of the day in the Stadium Suite at the Banks's, with a boxing legend leading his fighters into battle. The former two-weight world champion has teamed up with Errol Johnson's Black Country Boxing to put on the show, writes Craig Birch.

Wednesbury's Sam Evans and big heavyweight Nathan Gorman co-headline the bill, with 'the Hitman' in their corner. Evans, 20, is campaigning in the light welterweight division where his mentor reigned by winning IBO, IBF and WBA 'super' world titles during his own career.

'Taffy' employs the same body punching techniques and has reeled off three straight wins, the first two in the Stadium Suite including a TKO on his debut. Gorman, from Nantwich in Cheshire, will first appear in the supporting cast to Billy Joe Saunders' first defence of the WBO world middleweight title against Max Bursak.

If all goes as planned and he comes out on top, he'll step back through the ropes just two weeks after that date at the Copper Box Arena in London. Like Evans, he'd be looking for win No 4.

Former British lightweight champion Martin Gethin and ex-English title challenger Steven Pearce will both appear on the under-card. Walsall's Gethin has also held the Midlands, English and IBF International belts over a productive 12-year career as a pro. Tickets for the show, called 'May-Hem,' are on sale now. Standard passes are £30 with VIPs, at £60, including a two-course meal on tables of 10. For more information and to purchase, call the Walsall FC Box Office on 01922 651 414, extension 416.

Fletch: We've set the benchmark for rest of season

ALBION skipper Darren Fletcher says the club's valiant effort away at Manchester City on Saturday should be the team's 'benchmark' for the rest of the season. The Baggies may have lost 2-1 at the Etihad Stadium but they matched Manuel Pellegrini's side for the majority of proceedings.

"We've had some really good away performances against the big teams and we seem to raise our levels," said Fletcher. "That's the benchmark now until the end of the season. It was very good attacking play, people were taking touches and showing composure, there were good crosses and good little angled passes. Everyone wanted the ball and took care of the ball – it was a really good performance in the attacking sense. I think we deserved to take more from the game."

Fletcher said he was disappointed referee Mike Jones gave City a penalty but didn't point to the spot when Sandro was fouled. "I think they're both penalties, but we've got to get ours. You find that when you come to these top teams it's easier to give theirs than it is to give ours."

Rhine time for athletes in duathlons

ATHLETICS

FIVE Black Country triathletes will be packing up their bikes and trainers and heading out to Kelkar, Germany at the weekend, to represent Great Britain in the European Duathlon Championships.

Getting into the saddle for the competition will be 35-year-old Scott Palmer, with youngsters Lauren Evans, 21, Jemma Evans, 17 and Millie Silk, 17, who will all compete in the sprint race while Rob Kennard, aged 50, is taking on other European athletes in the Standard distance race.

For Jemma and Millie, both A'Level students at King Edwards College in Stourbridge, and Scott, this will be their first chance to represent their country and they are really looking forward to the experience, whilst Lauren and Rob will be building on their previous experience of racing with the GB team over the last couple of years.

All the athletes have been training with Black Country triathletes and in their own time and are hoping that the hard work will pay off in Germany.

The race courses are set alongside the River Rhine itself, near the amusement park Wunderland in the northern part of Germany near Dusseldorf.

Best of British, from left, triathletes Scott Palmer, Jemma Evans, Millie Silk, Lauren Evans and Rob Kennard

ALBION GRITTY AGAINST CITY

Man City 2 Albion 1

ONCE again the Baggies came away from the Etihad Stadium empty-handed.

That's nine games in a row Albion have lost to Manchester City, and in the last 13 Premier League meetings between these two sides, the boys from the Black Country have one measly 0-0 draw to show for their efforts.

One thing's for sure though, they didn't deserve to lose this one.

From minute one, they were willing to pass through City's gaping midfield, capitalising on Manuel Pellegrini's decision to play two up front. Fernando and Fabian Delph were left exposed to Saido Berahino dropping deep and Stephane Sessegnon cutting inside.

Both Sandro and Darren Fletcher were superb in the first half, but it was the Albion captain who ran the midfield against his former arch-rivals, carrying the ball well and moving it forward swiftly when he could. Sessegnon stunned the hosts early on, finishing a sweeping Baggies move with a deadly near-post laserbeam.

Camped

The pundits questioned Joe Hart's reactions, but this was an unstoppable goal that caught everyone in the stadium by surprise.

Yes, City had their spells of pressure camped on the edge of the Albion box, but this Tony Pulis side is drilled to near-perfection, and for all their huffing and puffing the hosts didn't look like breaking through. It was only Aleksandar Kolarov's late bursts from deep that were getting behind the visiting defence, and the hosts got back into the game from one of these runs.

Although it was a clumsy tackle from Sessegnon in the box, the Serbian fell to the floor far too easily when contact was minimal. If the home crowd thought that equaliser would herald an onslaught, they were wrong. Even after Salomon Rondon was forced off with a back injury, the Baggies kept playing a neat passing game, unable to launch the ball long to Berahino, the new target man. And they should have had a penalty of their own when Eliaquim Mangala barged Sandro to the floor when the score was 1-1, but for some reason referee Mike Jones said no.

Stephane Sessegnon celebrates scoring a goal to make the score 1-0 with team-mate James McClean

The game was still in the balance when Pellegrini brought the big guns on, and Kevin De Bruyne made an impact almost immediately. It was his charge-down and nutmeg that led to the winner, as he proved once again just how important he is to this City side. But the Baggies didn't roll over and die. Berahino should have put two gilt-edged opportunities on target, and Fletcher's touch let him down for the first time in the match when Hart punched a Jonathan Leko cross straight at the Albion skipper.

James McClean, who was brilliant on his return to the starting line-up, nearly buried a volley with his weak right foot with the last kick of the game, but the ball whistled past the post.

Even though they lost to City (again), this was a much better performance than the dismal displays against Sunderland and Norwich. If Pulis's side can replicate that for the remaining six games they've got every hope of breaking into the top half of the Premier League.

Brummies revved up over victory

BIRMINGHAM got their Knockout Cup venture off to a flying start with a 56-34 speedway victory over Rye House.

The Surestop Brummies sealed an impressive six maximum heat advantages to help them secure a 22-point first leg lead. Team manager Graham Drury was encouraged by his side's performance once again and is confident they can defend their advantage in the return leg at Hoddesdon on Sunday, April 24.

Said Drury: "I set the lads a 20-point lead target, they achieved that by two extra so I'm more than happy once again.

"22 points is a lot for any team to catch up with so it does take a lot of pressure off the second leg. But we won't be too complacent; we will go to Rye House at the end of the month, ride sensibly and do what we can to make sure we get safely through to the next round.

"There were no weak links for a second meeting running, everyone got at least one paid win so I'm over the moon for them all really."

NATIONAL LEAGUE KO CUP

1st round 1st leg:

BIRMINGHAM 56: Danyon Hume 11, Zach Wajtknecht 10+2, Darryl Ritchings 8, Jack Parkinson-Blackburn 7+4, Tom Bacon 7+1, Tom Perry 7+1, Jack Smith 6+1.

RYE HOUSE 34: Luke Priest 12, Ben Hopwood 9, Ben Morley 7+2, Harvie Banks 3+1, Sam Woods 3, Connor Locke 0, George Hunter R/R.

Sporting sink Town with top 10 display

Sporting 10 Tipton Town 0

HIGH flying Wolverhampton Sporting CFC welcomed bottom club Tipton Town to Pride Park having not lost at home since September 2015. They soon raced into a two goal lead with Dan Westwood following up an Ethan Delaney shot on 16 minutes then on 18 minutes Angelo Franco powered a header at the far post from Kyle Delaney's inviting corner.

Tipton kept pressing but had very few chances and Sporting wrapped up the game with three goals in five minutes with Westwood on 34, Ethan Delaney 36, and then centre back Scott Dooper on 38 minutes.

Tipton's cause wasn't helped when striker Kieron Miller was sent off for violent conduct on the stroke of half time. Sporting had to wait until the hour mark for their next, but it was worth it, as top scorer Westwood completed his hat-trick with a super turn and chip from 15 yards. With Tipton tiring badly Jon Letford completed an identical four minute hat-trick with goals on 78, 80, 82.

The tenth came on 88 minutes when Ethan Delaney hit a superb shot from 10 yards into the top corner to keep Sporting on course for a 1st FA Cup qualification 12 months after facing relegation.

★★★

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